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United States
Department of
Agriculture

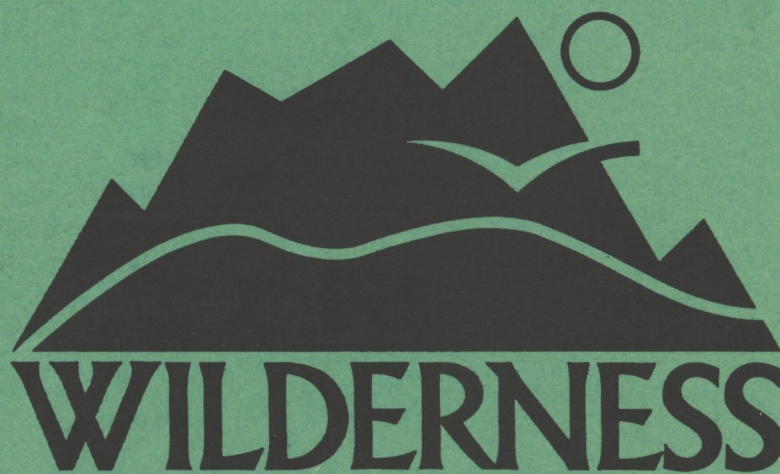
Forest Service

Recreation Staff



Ideas

For Wilderness Information & Education



1964 • TWENTY-FIVE YEARS • 1989

U. S. FOREST SERVICE

AD-33 Bookplate
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NATIONAL F.L. COLLINS

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EXPERIMENT STATION

Wilderness education is intended to increase public awareness about wilderness, affect attitude and behavior changes to protect wilderness values, and develop a general outdoor ethic.

This catalogue includes samples and ideas that have been used successfully in Forest Service wilderness education programs, and were selected from materials submitted by Forest Service wilderness rangers. Managers are encouraged to use or adopt any of it to teach wilderness visitors how to be "no-trace" users.

For further information contact:

USDA Forest Service
Recreation Management, Rm 4225
P.O. Box 96090
Washington, DC 20090-6090
phone - FTS 447-2422, 202-447-7754
DG - RN:W01C

June 7, 1989

INTRODUCTION

One acre in every six acres of the National Forest System is managed as Wilderness. Our mission in response to this Congressional mandate is to preserve an enduring resource of wilderness, where natural processes are allowed to operate freely and man is a visitor who does not remain.

An integral part of the Forest Service responsibilities in fulfilling our mission in wilderness management is an active and aggressive wilderness education program. Informing and educating the public about wilderness resource values and their role in protecting these values is not a "nice to do" program! It is just as important as our activities in law enforcement, resource rehabilitation, use and resource condition inventories, and planning. Step back for a moment a look at the relationship of these activity areas.

We conduct inventories to provide the basic information for making knowledgeable decisions. Plans are prepared to compete for limited funds and direct the most efficient use of budgets for on-the-ground activities to protect wilderness resource values. Information and education programs inform users of the special nature of Wilderness and what is expected of them in protecting this sensitive resource. Regulations are enforced to protect Wilderness where education has failed or users choose to ignore the rules. Rehabilitation and other resource protection actions are carried out when natural processes are being disrupted in an unacceptable manner, despite our best planning, education, and enforcement efforts.

Wilderness education is intended to increase public awareness about Wilderness, affect attitude and behavior changes to protect wilderness values, and develop a general outdoor ethic. People cannot be expected to act properly if they are not informed as to what is appropriate behavior. Informed users are much more likely to minimize their impacts **by their own actions**. As a result, wilderness managers will not be forced to rely as heavily on closures, restrictions, regulations and law enforcement. Thus a greater freedom of choice will be maintained in wilderness recreation.

This catalogue represents the best of of a cross section of wilderness information. Special thanks to all the wilderness managers and rangers that have developed this information over the years and have contributed to this effort. Credit for the selection, layout, and presentation of the catalogue goes to Lionel Melanchon, Jefferson NF, and Tom Dwyer, Santa Fe NF, who compiled this information in Washington, D.C. in January 1989. Anne Fege and Paul Bradley provided logistical and technical support from the Washington Office of the Forest Service. Inspiration for this catalogue came from the assembly of wilderness education materials in 1984 by Bob Oset and Floyd Thompson.

It is the purpose of this catalogue to promote ideas for better wilderness information and education programs that will encourage wiser use of public land. These are samples of materials and ideas that have been used successfully in someone's wilderness education program. Source references for the material illustrated is given. Some material may be available on a loan basis only. You are encouraged to use or adopt any of it to help you teach your visitors how to be "no-trace" users.

Brochures, videos, booklets and other educational material do not make an educational program. The most important part of a successful wilderness education program is an enthusiastic Wilderness Ranger making personal contacts. So armed with new ideas, material and enthusiasms you can now go forward. Remember, **SUCCESS IS A JOURNEY NOT A DESTINATION!**

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AUDIO/VISUAL

AUDIO/VISUAL PROGRAMS

The programs listed are at this time (2/89) believed to be the best available. There are other programs available which are too site-specific, or are outdated. The ones selected here are current and have Service-wide application.

"No Trace Backpacking" (17 min.)

USDA Forest Service - Technology and Development Center
Fort Missoula - Building #1, Missoula, MT 59801

Very good, up to date information. Copies in many National Forest offices. Additional copies available from Technology and Development Center. Covers trip planning, techniques, etiquette, and ethics. Also available in 16 mm.

"Techniques and Equipment for Wilderness Horse Travel"

USDA Forest Service - Technology and Development Center
Fort Missoula - Building #1, Missoula, MT 59801 (12:30 min)

Very good, up to date information. Like "No trace backpacking", many copies already in field. Contact Technology and Development Center for additional copies. Also available in 16 mm.

"Visions of the Wild" (23:15 min.)

USDA Forest Service - Washington Office and Pacific Southwest Region
Available from: Diner and Allied Film and Video, 620 Third St.
San Francisco, CA 94107, (415) 777-1700 Tina Liadis
16 mm = \$197 - 1/2" Video = \$40 - 3/4" Video = \$42

Good production tracing the origins of the National Wilderness Preservation System, the importance of wilderness management, and the variety of ways that Americans relate to this enduring resource. One copy sent to Regional office and National Forest in June 1989.

SLIDE/TAPES

"Without a Trace: The Wilderness Challenge" (23 min.) 1978

Produced by the Pacific Northwest Region, Portland, OR 97208
Available from: Bill Stevens, 1501 SW Jefferson, Portland, OR 97201
(503) 226-7223

A good production addressing proper Wilderness behavior and camping techniques.

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest Service

Intermountain
Research Station

General Technical
Report INT-230



Managing Wilderness Recreation Use: Common Problems and Potential Solutions

David N. Cole
Margaret E. Petersen
Robert C. Lucas



MANAGING WILDERNESS RECREATION USE:
Common Problems and Potential Solutions
GTR-INT-230 Intermountain Research Station
Intermountain Region

Federal Building, 324 25th Street, Ogden, UT 84401

Very good report summarizing alternative management tactics available for dealing with common wilderness recreation problems. Addresses education and low-impact messages and ways of modifying behavior.

BOOKS

*How to enjoy the wilderness
without harming it*



Soft Paths

Bruce Hampton
and David Cole

THE NATIONAL OUTDOOR LEADERSHIP SCHOOL



SOFT PATHS

National Outdoor Leadership School-1988

Published by Stackpole Books P.O.Box 1831, Harrisburg, Pa. 17105

1-800-READ NOW (\$10.00)

(5 1/4"X 8 1/4")

Outstanding book! A must for all Wilderness Managers as well as users. Contains information on ethics, low-impact techniques and environment specific (alpine, desert, winter, etc.) considerations.

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Intermountain and
Northern Regions



A User's Guide Frank Church— River of No Return Wilderness



A USERS GUIDE: FRANK CHURCH - RIVER OF NO RETURN WILDERNESS

Intermountain Region and Northern Region

Federal Bldg., 324 25th Street, Ogden, UT 84401

Federal Bldg., 200 E. Broadway Street, P.O. Box 7669, Missoula, MT 58807

(5 1/2"X 8 1/2")

A very good example of its type. The 39-page booklet provides a wealth of information for the wilderness user. Some of the information is general and pertains to any wilderness, but much is specific.

BOOKS

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest Service

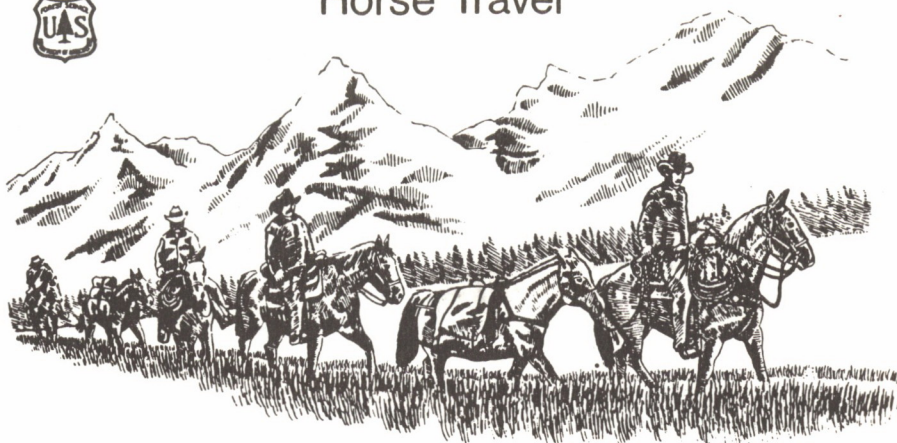
Equipment
Development
Center

Missoula, Mont.



Wilderness Horse Travel

Techniques & Equipment
for Wilderness
Horse Travel



2300-Recreation
8123 2804

WILDERNESS HORSE TRAVEL

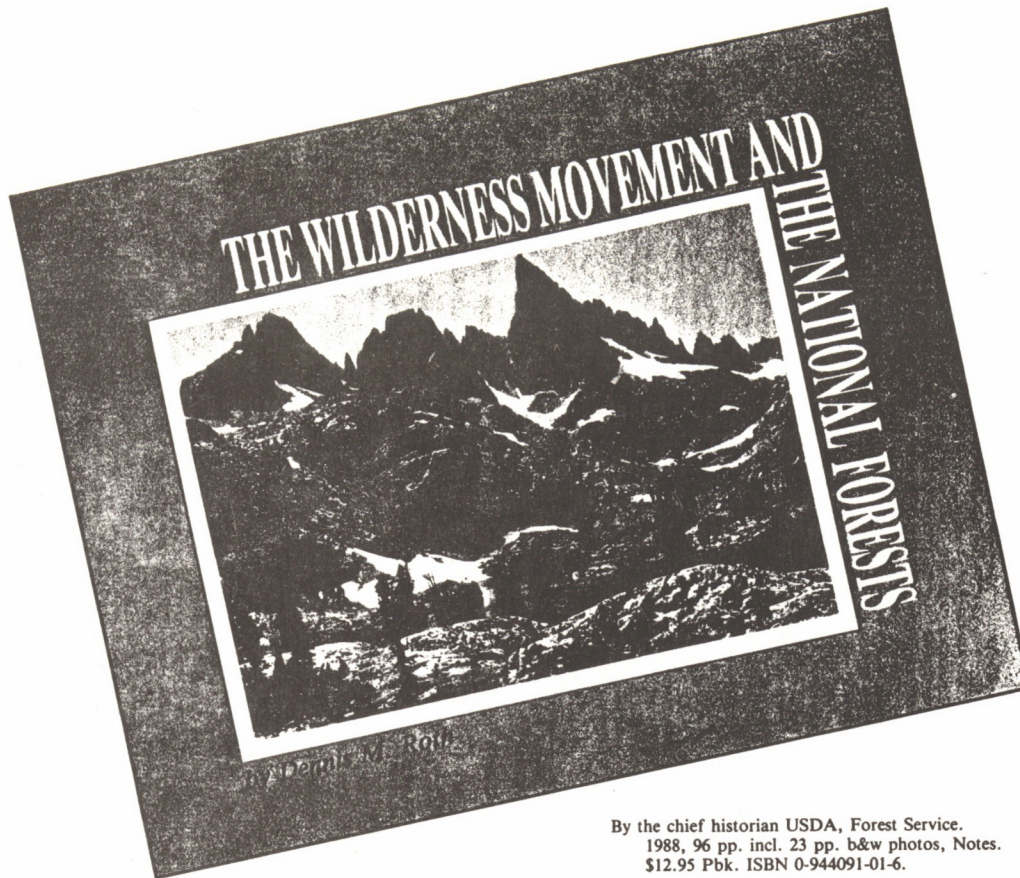
Techniques & Equipment for Wilderness Horse Travel

Missoula Technology and Development Center, Missoula MT 59801

(8-3/8"X 11-3/4") 42 pages

Very nice book developed from 13-min. color video available from most Regional and Supervisors Offices. Very readable with a lot of good graphics and very little text.

BOOKS



By the chief historian USDA, Forest Service.
1988, 96 pp. incl. 23 pp. b&w photos, Notes.
\$12.95 Pbk. ISBN 0-944091-01-6.

ORDER FORM

THE INTAGLIO PRESS
P.O. Box 9952
College Station, Texas 77842

Date _____

Purchase Order No. _____

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		(Texas residents add 7.5% sales tax)		
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Payment must accompany individual orders. Postage is paid. (Dealers and wholesalers on orders of 20 or more copies will receive an invoice for 40% of the amount indicated plus shipping charges. When payment accompanies orders a fifty percent discount is given and shipping charges are paid. Returns are accepted after 90 days and before 360 days from date of shipment for undamaged books.)

THE WILDERNESS MOVEMENT AND THE NATIONAL FORESTS

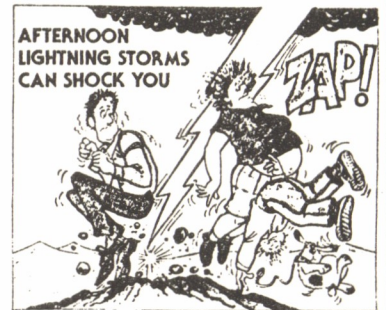
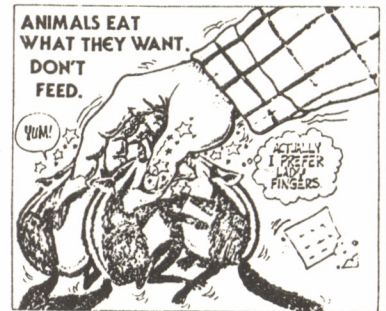
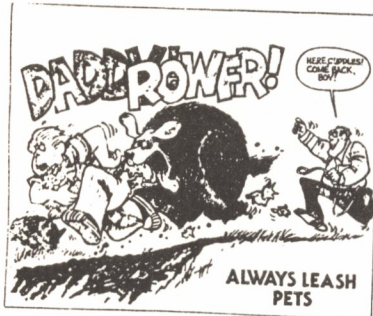
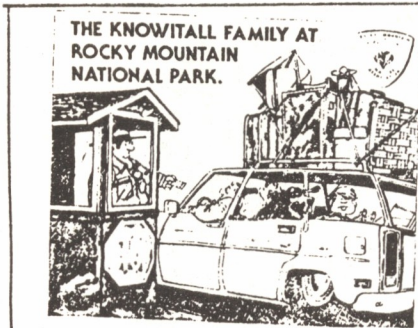
The Intaglio Press, P.O.Box 9952, College Station, Texas 77842

(11"X 8-1/2") 92 pages

By Dennis M. Roth, The chief historian USDA Forest Service.

1988, 23 b&w photographs, Notes. ISBN 0-944091-01-6.

BROCHURES



CARTOON BROCHURE

A clever brochure published by the Rocky Mountain Nature Association for the Rocky Mountain National Park. Impossible to pick it up and not read it. The Park Service waterproofs it and uses it as posters by enlarging single frames. Contact Rocky Mountain Nature Association, c/o Rocky Mountain National Park, Estes Park, CO 80517-8397.

BROCHURES

WILDERNESS TRAVEL

Careful planning and preparation are essential to a safe and enjoyable trip into the wilderness. Since the Eastern Region's wildernesses vary so much, plan your trip from start to finish at home. Use topographic maps and trail guides and get the advice of experienced back country travelers. Check elevations and total distance to be traveled UP and DOWN. Allow plenty of time for moving over hilly, rugged terrain.

Before entering the wilderness, leave your itinerary with a relative or friend. Write a full account of who is going in, where you are going, when you will be back or where you will exit, and the approximate location of each overnight campsite.

Carry a map and compass, and stick to the planned route. It is wise never to travel alone, but if you must, keep to frequently used trails in case you become sick or injured.

SPECIAL REGULATIONS

Some Eastern Region wildernesses may require special day and overnight permits to keep track of visitor use and to pinpoint heavy use areas. They are free and must be in your possession while in the wilderness. Permits can be obtained from the Forest Service office nearest the wilderness.

Some wildernesses may have restrictions on the number of people allowed in for overnight use, and several have group size limits. This information is available where you obtain the permit.

You may hunt and fish, in season a State law, in all National Forest wildernesses before you start your trip.

Except for certain portions of the B Area Wilderness (BWCAW), the use of firearms is prohibited in Eastern Region wilderness.

CAMPFIRE SAFETY

To build a fire, first select a level spot trees, bushes, or dry grass. Keep away from hills — fire travels uphill fast. With your feet across down to bare soil. Hollow across and 5 or 6 inches deep. Pile the sticks on the firehole. Keep the fire small and in the weather.

Put out your campfire at least half an hour before you leave. First let it die down, then wood and ashes, and spread soil over the ashes until the fire is OUT.

If you're a winter hiker, be advised: the mountainous wildernesses of the White Mountains do occur in the White Mountain National Forest. Check with local Forest Service information on avoiding avalanches are.

NO-TRACE CAMPING

Carry a portable stove and avoid all the work required in building a cooking fire. If you must have a fire, then use only dead-and-down wood. Never break branches from standing trees, even if the branches look dead. The tree may not be, and breaking off the branches can injure it. If you use only a small amount of fire wood, campers who come after you will be able to enjoy a campfire, too.

Camp on mineral soil or where you won't destroy vegetation. Never camp in meadows or soft grassy areas, because they compact easily. Locate your campsite at least 100 feet from water or trails. Do not bury trash — burn it or pack it out. You must pack out cans, bottles, and metal foil. Better yet — leave these products at home. When you bury your trash, animals will dig it up again.

Before leaving camp, "naturalize" the area by —

- scattering any rocks and wood you used to make a fire ring.
- scouting the area to be sure you leave nothing behind.
- trying to make the site look as if no one had been there.
- packing out the trash left by other campers.

Your example may catch on! Keeping trails and campsites litter-free helps preserve the wilderness experience for everyone.

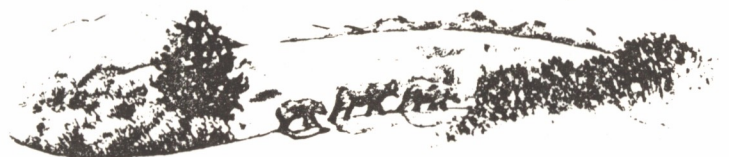
SANITATION



EASTERN



WILDERNESS



INFORMATION

EASTERN WILDERNESS INFORMATION

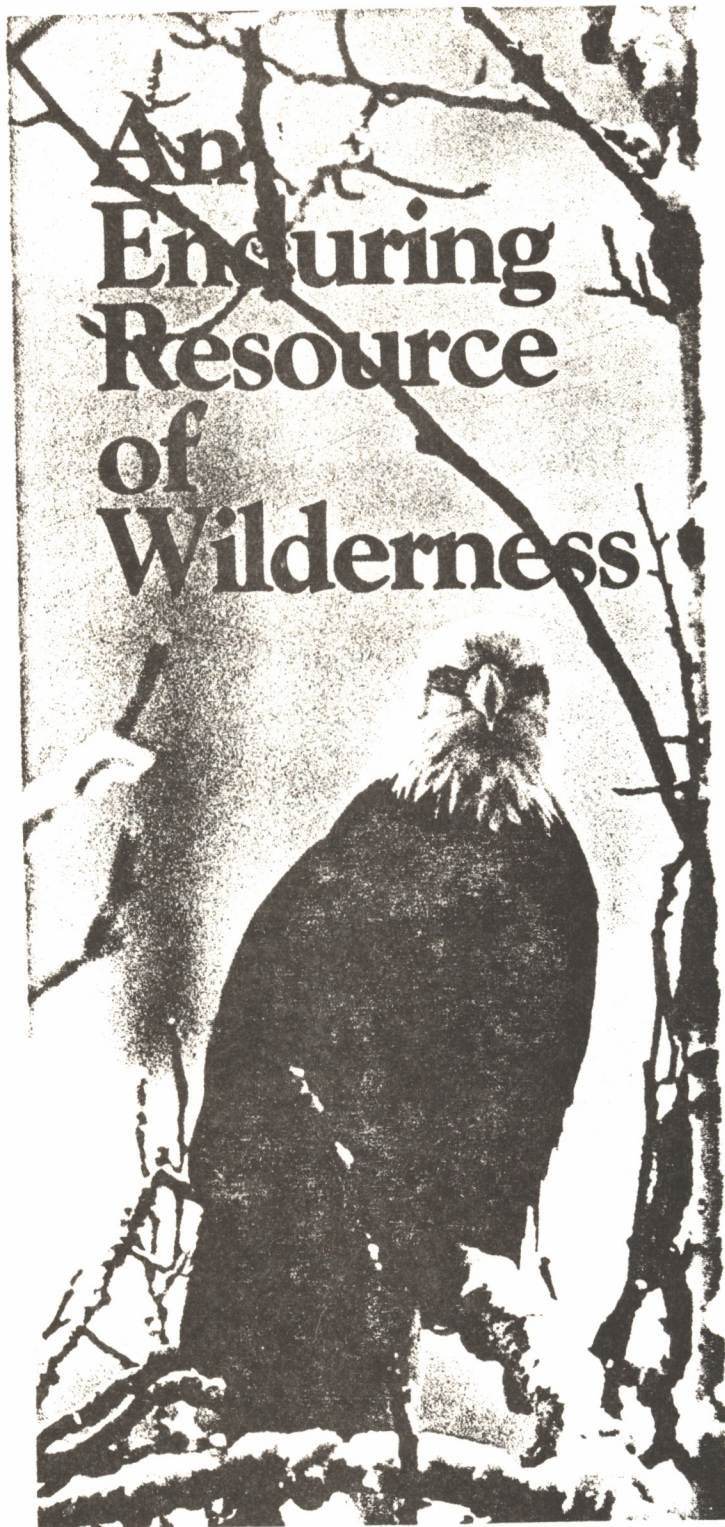
An Information Jacket

Eastern Region

310 West Wisconsin Ave., Room 500, Milwaukee, WI 53203

Similar to the smaller version, but this jacket is full size and can handle full size ROG's and other (8 1/2"X 11") sheets. It also contains a lot of information relevant to Eastern Wilderness and has a map of Forests of the Eastern Region on it. A lot of good low-impact and wilderness ethic information included on jacket.

BROCHURES



AN ENDURING RESOURCE OF WILDERNESS

A three-fold brochure on The Wilderness Act, the National Wilderness Preservation System, wilderness management, special provisions of the Wilderness Act, and the 25th anniversary of the Wilderness Act. Includes full color pictures and is intended for general public distribution. Available in each Regional Office and National Forest. Produced by Washington Office Recreation Management Staff, Room 4225, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090

BROCHURES

Horse Sense

On National Forest
Pack Trips



United States
Department of
Agriculture



Forest Service
Northern Region

**HORSE SENSE on
National Forest Service
Pack Trips.**

**Northern Region, Federal
Building, 200 East
Broadway St., P.O. Box
7669, Missoula, MT 59807**

A good brochure with most
of the messages in larger
book and video tape.
Handy size for mailing.
Service-wide application.

BROCHURES

Welcome to the
SUPERIOR
**National
Forest**



WE HOPE YOU
FIND THE ENCLOSED
INFORMATION USEFUL

United States
Department of Agriculture
Forest Service



☆ GPO: 1987-743-631



INFORMATION JACKET

Welcome to the Superior National Forest
Eastern Region


310 West Wisconsin Ave., Room 500, Milwaukee, WI 53203

Excellent idea for marketing to various interests without having to send everything to everybody. The jacket is almost generic, but the (3 5/8"X 8 1/2") inserts can be easily produced locally or on colored paper. Some of the subjects covered on single sheets are: BWCA WILDERNESS ENTRY POINTS; BWCAW RULES AND REGULATIONS; THE BOUNDARY WATERS CANOE AREA WILDERNESS, many other titles relating to SAFETY, CAMPING WITH BEARS, PERMITS, and GROUP SIZES. Some leaflets are single sheets, some printed on both sides, and some are folded to fit the jacket.

Leave "No Trace" Land Ethics

Times are changing. More and more people are taking to trails to discover America. On foot or on horseback; on mountain bikes or with a mule; there is lots to be explored in our National Forests, National Parks, and Bureau of Land Management areas. The current back-to-nature movement has given people a renewed awareness of back-country areas, but not without some problems. Many popular areas are already overcrowded; evidence of people, horses, tents, and campfires is everywhere.

We visit back-country areas for solitude and a "wilderness experience." We want to escape from crowds, noise, and the daily pressures of urban life. Enjoying wildlands also requires a commitment to preserve them. NO-TRACE back-country practices are techniques we can use to help reduce our presence in wildlands. Through an understanding of NO-TRACE land ethics; we can enjoy the wildlands within our public lands, while preserving the solitude we seek.



LEAVE "NO TRACE" LAND ETHICS Southwestern Region, Federal Building, 517 Gold Ave., SW, Albuquerque, NM 87102, produced cooperatively with The National Park Service and The Bureau of Land Management.

Excellent information in 7-page brochure about low-impact techniques. Service wide application. Southwestern a limited supply.



NO-TRACE Ethic

Keeping back-country areas in their wild state is something we all can do by practicing NO-TRACE ethics. NO-TRACE guidelines have been designed to aid in the protection of all back-country and wilderness areas. By following these guidelines, we can better protect the land and lessen the sights and sounds of our visit.

Produced Cooperatively By:

USDA

Forest
Service

USDI

National
Park Service

USDI

Bureau of Land
Management

Because most of us do not live in the out-of-doors all the time, we unknowingly do things that do not reflect a NO-TRACE ethic.

Here are some:

- Bright colored outdoor gear dotting the landscape.
- Large groups traveling and camping together.
- Traveling off trails in single file, causing scars, trampled vegetation and soil erosion; especially in meadows and near lakes and streams.
- Polluted lakes and streams.
- Campfire scars.
- Human waste and garbage scattered about.
- Loud noise which disturbs wildlife and other visitors.

Practicing a NO-TRACE ethic is very simple if you remember two things: (1) MAKE IT HARD FOR OTHERS TO SEE YOU AND (2) LEAVE NO TRACE OF YOUR VISIT.

NO-TRACE Planning

Lots of planning must go into a back-country trip if it is to be safe and fun. Gathering information from National Forest, Bureau of Land Management and National Park offices can help you in planning. They can provide you with current maps, first-hand information on trails and campsites, and anything else pertinent to your trip. In planning your trip consider group size, when and where to go, equipment, and food selection.

Group Size: Small groups are ideal. You should plan on traveling and camping with less than 8-10 people. Smaller groups are more desirable in open areas; such as deserts, meadows, and above timber line. It is easier to plan for small groups and to keep them together. Campsites for smaller groups are easier to find, and they harmonize better with the environment.

When and Where To Go: If you desire a high solitude experience, you should avoid back-country trips on holidays and even some weekends. Midweek is the best time to go if you want the area to yourself. Any time of the year is good, but consider the spring and fall seasons. The winter is even better if you are prepared. Popular trails and wildernesses seem to be always

crowded. Plan on visiting a less popular area to enjoy the solitude you came for.

Equipment: The type of equipment you take into the back country can have a lot to do with the NO-TRACE ethic. Bright colored clothing, packs and tents should be avoided. They all contribute to a crowded feeling and can be seen for long distances. Consider choosing earth-tone colors to lessen the visual impact of your gear in the back country. Plan to carry a lightweight backpacking stove for all your cooking. Stoves will not scar the landscape as campfires do. Be sure to inquire locally about having open fires, since some areas are closed due to fire danger or scarcity of fuel.

Repacking food can lighten your pack and eliminates bringing trash into the back country. Leave glass and aluminum packaging at home. It is all extra weight and glass and aluminum don't burn. **IF YOU PACK IT IN, YOU HAVE TO PACK IT OUT.** Carry extra trash bags. Besides making great emergency rain gear, you will be amazed at how much trash can be picked up in and around your campsite.



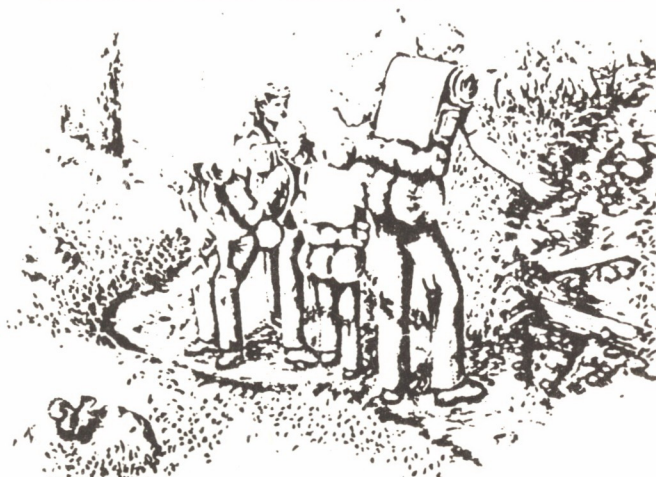
Other equipment needs are a small trowel for burying human waste and for digging NO-TRACE fire pits if you have a fire.

Be Prepared: NO-TRACE includes being prepared for your trip—so that others do not have to trample through the back country to look for you. Obtain a good map; plan your route; and leave word with someone—just in case you should get lost. Carry a minimum of survival gear; including extra food, a signal mirror and whistle, and warm clothing—even when you plan a day hike.

Carry extra water in desert areas (minimum of two quarts per day/per person).

Remember:

- Plan for small groups.
- Obtain information about the trip ahead of time.
- Visit a less popular area.
- Plan a fall, spring, or mid-week trip if you wish to avoid crowds.
- Select earthtone colors to blend with the environment.
- Repackage food.



NO-TRACE Travel

Trails are an important part of back-country travel. They are designed to get people from one place to another with varying degrees of difficulty. Trails are also designed to drain off water with a minimum amount of soil erosion. When traveling, no matter by what means, make an effort to stay on the trails.

Switchbacks are the most abused portion of the trail system. A switchback is a reversal in trail direction. Many people cut switchbacks trying to save time and energy. They are only creating a new scar on the hillside which will cause soil erosion and many problems for work crews later. Please do not cut switchbacks.

Cross-Country: No one objects to your group planning a nonmotorized cross-country trip. Remember to stay spread out when traveling. We don't want any new

trails developing on their own. That is why motorized cross-country trips are not encouraged even where legal. Avoid traveling through meadows and wet areas. These fragile places will show the impact of foot or hoof prints and group travel much longer than forested and rocky areas.

Another problem we see when traveling the back country is people hanging ribbons, signs, or even blazing trees to mark a path for others to follow. Always discuss the planned route with your group members to avoid leaving an impact.

Remember:

- Stay on designated trails.
- Don't cut switchbacks.
- Select rocky or forested areas when traveling cross-country.
- Plan your route so everyone knows.

NO-TRACE Camping

Choosing a campsite away from popular places will provide you with more solitude and less visibility from others. Try to camp 200 feet or more from lakes, streams, meadows, and trails when you have a choice. There will be less chance of damage to fragile areas and you will have a NO-TRACE campsite. Sometimes you will cause less impact by using an existing campsite rather than clearing a new one—you must judge this yourself.



Where campsites are designated, use them. They are designed for camping use, while minimizing damage to the land.

Location: The best campsites are found on ridges, hills or near canyon walls. These areas provide natural drainage so your camp will not flood. Arrange your campsite around trees, rocks, and shrubs to hide it from view.

Never ditch or build trenches around your tent. They can start soil erosion and lasting scars will remain. Plan your stay for as few nights as possible to avoid waste accumulation and injury to plants. One night in each campsite is best. It will be much easier to leave NO TRACE of your visit when you depart.

Remember:

- Select a campsite 200 feet or more from trails, lakes, streams and meadows.
- Hide your campsite from view.
- Avoid ditching around tents.
- Stay as few nights as possible in one place.



Fires

For a total NO-TRACE campsite, you should cook on a stove and avoid building any campfires. Today's backpacking stoves are economical and lightweight to use in the back country. You can be assured of fast, clean cooking even if firewood is scarce. In some heavy use areas, fires are not permitted. In fragile environments (deserts, alpine meadows) fires leave scars for many years. Find out at the Ranger Station or District Office if any fire restrictions or closures apply to the area you plan to visit.

Heavy Use Area: If you are camping in a heavy-use area, there are probably some existing campfire rings nearby. Plan on using one of these to lessen the impact. These campfire areas have been left for your use so the impact is concentrated in one area.

Remote Areas: When camping in remote areas, you may have to build a campfire site. Select a site away from trees and shrubs. A sandy spot or hard ground is excellent since the scar can be easily hidden. Never build a fire next to a rock (the smoke will blacken it), or in a meadow where it can be seen.

With your trowel, dig up the organic layer of soil and set it aside for later use. Avoid encircling the fire with rocks, they will not keep a fire from spreading, the rocks may explode from intense heat, and the blackened rocks will be hard to conceal.

Wood: Burning small sticks gathered from the ground is best. Use only down, dead wood and never cut green trees or branches. It will not burn! Standing dead trees will burn but are valuable for wildlife and aesthetics. Leave them alone. Small wood will burn completely, providing good coals for cooking. The remaining white ash will be much easier to dispose of than partially burned logs. Remember to never leave your fire unattended.



Leaving No-Trace: In heavily-used camping areas some fire rings are maintained and should be used. Make sure your fire is dead-out before you pick out aluminum and other trash that didn't burn. To be assured of a cold fire, sprinkle with water and stir the coals. If the coals are cold to the touch, it's out. The remaining

ash and coals should be scattered. Using a burlap or plastic cloth carry the ashes several hundred feet from the campsite and scatter them. Be sure that they are widely scattered for better concealment and assimilation back into the soil. After picking up the trash, your campfire area is ready for the next visitor.

For remote areas, follow the same procedure and be sure to replace the organic material you set aside earlier. Be sure to completely naturalize the area. If you think all this is a bother, difficult, and dirty—it is! You are further encouraged to choose a stove for your cooking and the stars for your evening musings.

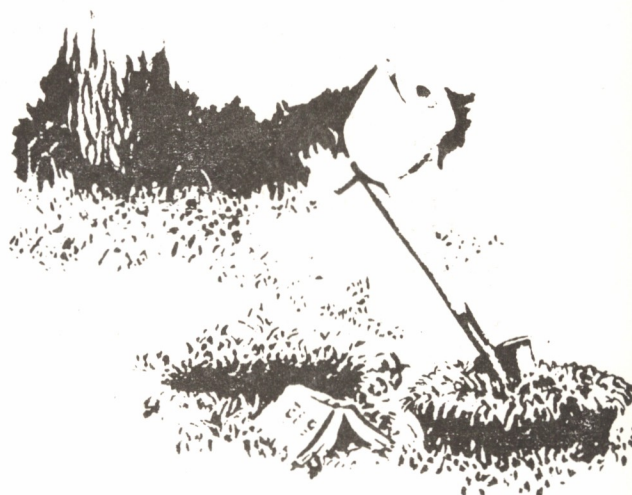
Remember:

- Use a lightweight stove rather than building a fire.
- Check Ranger Stations for fire regulations.
- Use existing fire circles in heavy-use areas.
- Save sod for naturalizing in remote areas.
- Build fires away from trees, shrubs, and meadows.
- Burn only small sticks.
- Make sure the fire is dead-out.
- Scatter the ashes.
- Naturalize the area.

THINK AGAIN ABOUT THE CONVENIENCES
OF A LIGHTWEIGHT STOVE!



source. Practice using biodegradable soap, although any soap can pollute lakes and streams injuring fish and other aquatic animals. Wash water can then be poured on the ground a safe distance from any water source.



Sanitation

Sanitation practices in the back country require extra effort. Washing and the disposal of human waste must be done carefully so as not to pollute the environment. Water sources can become polluted from the run-off of soaps, food waste and human waste. Toilet paper and other trash also leave an unsightly impact.

Washing: Do all your washing away from the camp and any water sources. For personal washing, use a container to wash and rinse yourself away from the water source. For dishwashing, scrape food scraps into the latrine and wash the dishes away from the water

Human Waste: The size of your latrine will depend on group size. An individual may want to use the cat method of making a shallow hole and covering when done. A group will want to dig a latrine to accommodate their needs. A latrine should be dug in the top 6-8 inches of organic soil and be at least 200 feet away from camp, trails, and water sources. After each use, cover with dirt to discourage flies. Food scraps and fish entrails should also be disposed of in your latrine. If no

fire restrictions are in effect, burn toilet paper to avoid the possibility of erosion, or later disturbance by animals. Cover the latrine thoroughly with dirt, rocks, and natural material to leave NO TRACE before heading home.



Trash: If you have planned your back-country trip well, there shouldn't be too much trash accumulation. Practice tearing packages open only part way. You will have one piece of trash instead of two. Make an effort to pocket all your trash, including cigarette butts. You can empty your pockets into a trash bag later. Never bury any of your trash, animals have a tendency to dig it up. If you packed it in full . . . you can certainly pack it out empty.

Remember:

- Do all washing away from camp and water sources.
- Dig latrines 200 feet or more from camp, trails, and streams.
- Place food scraps in latrine.
- Bury latrine, burn toilet paper (when fire conditions permit) and naturalize area.
- Pack it in, Pack it out.

Pack Animals

Many people enjoy horse packing in back-country areas. Pack stock groups have to be just as conscientious of leaving NO TRACE as do backpackers. Proper

planning, camp location, and containing animals once in camp all demand special attention.

Planning: The same type of planning must go into a pack stock trip. Check with local offices for trail conditions and whether stock is allowed. Some areas are closed to pack animals due to over-use, or fragile environments. The fewer animals taken, the less impact on the land. Keeping the group small and carrying lightweight equipment will help to reduce the number of animals needed.

Setting Up Camp: For the horsepacker, the first rule of campsite selection is to think of your stock. The campsite should be able to accommodate your animals without any damage to the area. As you ride into a potential campsite, look it over and decide whether there is enough feed. While you are considering feed requirements, give some thought to the wildlife in the area. If the area is overgrazed, it may remove feed otherwise needed by deer and elk during winter months. Graze your animals on north and east slopes, which will be snow covered during the winter leaving forage for wildlife on exposed south and west slopes. Where your stock waters is also an important consideration. Pick a place downstream from camp and where the stream bank can withstand hard use.



Animal Containment: Hitchlines, hobbles, and pickets are all methods of containing pack animals. Hitchlines need to be erected in rocky areas, and on good stout trees. Hobbles prevent horses from moving too far, and pickets confine them to an area only as long as the

rope or chain. Pickets should be moved at least twice daily to prevent overgrazing. Temporary corrals are an excellent method of containing pack animals for several days. They can be built out of natural timbers, rope or portable electric fence.

Feed: Feeding your pack animals can cause an impact too. Spreading loose hay on the ground could introduce exotic plant species to an area. Instead, pack in a good supply of processed feed for your animals. This will give them a supply of food and prevent overgrazing around the camp.

National Park Service areas do not allow grazing of stock. Plan on taking enough feed for stock, where stock is allowed.



Breaking Camp

It will take extra time to naturalize an area from the impact of pack animals. Manure piles need to be scattered to aid decomposition, discourage flies, and as a courtesy to other users. Areas dug up by animal hooves will need to be filled, and trampled areas made to look natural.

Historical/Archeological Sites

Many historical and archeological sites can be found throughout our National Forests, National Parks and Bureau of Land Management areas. You are invited to enjoy and learn from these remnants of our past heritage. Those of us who are fortunate to view



these sites can help preserve them for the next generation by not disturbing the sites in any manner. Federal law prohibits disturbing historical and archeological sites. Please don't disturb or remove any objects from our past. Do not camp in or near these resources. This inadvertently disturbs valuable archeologic information that can never be reclaimed.

Back-Country Courtesy

Courtesy towards others in the back country helps everyone enjoy their outdoor experience. Excessive noise, loose pets, and damaged natural surroundings create a negative atmosphere in the back country.

While traveling on trails keep the noise level down. Radio and tape players do not belong in the back country. If your group encounters another group, uphill hikers have the right-of-way. If encountering a cavalcade group, you should step off the trail on the lower side and let them pass. Keep the noise level down as horses are spooked easily.

Keep pets under control at all times. No one wants to have someone's pet running through the area frightening people and wildlife. In National Parks, check to see if pets are allowed in the back country.

Wildflowers, picturesque trees, and unusual rock formations all give back-country areas the beauty we came to see. Picking flowers, hacking at trees, and chipping away at rock all can detract from the primitive atmosphere. Please leave them for others to enjoy. Take nothing but pictures . . . leave with only your memories.

BROCHURES

Trails are yours to enjoy and you can help take care of them while hiking. It's simple. Every time you use a section of trail, take a moment or two to improve it. Three easy steps can make a difference. They can save all of us money and prolong the life of our National Forest trails.

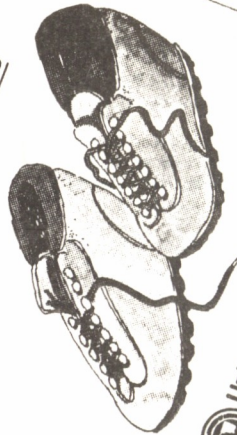
If you would like to do more work on trails consider adopting a trail or section of trail. Many individuals and groups have taken over all maintenance responsibilities through the adopt-a-trail program. If you are interested contact the local Forest Service office.

If everyone helps a little bit on trail maintenance the total impact will be great. This will allow the Forest Service to use its limited funds on the most important trail projects.

These three easy steps can make a difference. Remember, as you hike "step by step," do your part to make this a better trail.

R6-23-1-87

STEP BY STEP FOR BETTER TRAILS



United States Department of
Agriculture
Forest Service
Pacific Northwest Region

STEP BY STEP - For Better Trails

Deschutes NF - Pacific Northwest Region

319 SW Pine Street, P.O. Box 3623, Portland, Oregon 97208

A small (2-1/2"X 3-1/2") "Tag On" brochure with simple message about how hikers can help maintain trails.

Good for high-volume distribution.

BROCHURES

WILDERNESS REGULATIONS

RETAIN THIS CARD WHILE ON TRIP

- (1) Do not camp or use a fire within 100 feet of all lakes, streams and trails.
This will allow vegetation to recover, and help keep the water clean and pure. Campfires scar the soil, rocks, and vegetation. **Krummholz** (ancient twisted trees) is often destroyed for firewood and does not regenerate.
- (2) Do not camp or use a fire in revegetation sites. These areas have been seeded and need protection to succeed.
- (3) Dogs must be on a leash at all times. Loose dogs can harass wildlife and can create conflicts between visitors.
- (4) Do not hobble, picket or tether stock within 100 feet of all lakes, streams, and trails.
This allows trampled vegetation to recover and keep lakes and streams clean and pure.
- (5) Motor vehicles, mechanical equipment prohibited within the wilderness.
- (6) Groups are not to exceed 25 persons and 10 dogs. Wilderness is a delicate environment and a careless act by man may

destruction of the Wilderness environment. You can help retain its natural state by following the regulations and understanding the reasons behind them.

FIRE: Fire rings leave permanent scars on the land and rocks where a self-contained gas or sterno stove leaves no trace of human presence. Where allowable fires should be constructed using the pit method to minimize the impact.

WATER: Due to natural organisms in the water, we strongly recommend boiling drinking water. When washing always use biodegradable soap at least 100 feet from water source.

SANITATION: Bury human waste at least 6 inches deep and at least 100 feet from lakes and streams, to preserve water purity.

REFUSE: Pack out **all** garbage and litter. Take pride in preserving the Wilderness landscape.

For additional information, contact:
U.S. FOREST SERVICE, Holy Cross District
401 N. Main St. (P.O. Box 190)

The U.S. Congress defines wilderness this way: A wilderness, in contrast with the areas where man and his own works dominate the landscape, is an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain.

Backcountry ethics are important in keeping the wilderness wild. Minimum impact camping is vital to help preserve and protect the natural features we all seek. It is a land ethic that recognizes man's responsibility for the stewardship of the earth for generations yet unborn.

Inform others of the backcountry ethic! Pass this information on to others.



Thanks

Wilderness



"WILDERNESS" - Neat little (2-1/2" X 3-1/2") single-fold 2-page brochure containing regulations and low-impact messages. Site specific. Good example of a "Tag on" that could be distributed by sporting goods stores, etc. Funded by Vail Mountaineering for the White River NF, Rocky Mountain Region

11177 West Eighth Avenue, P.O. Box 25127, Lakewood, CO 80225

BROCHURES

Wilderness Solitude Catalog

WASHINGTON



Are you fed up with camping tent stake to tent stake with other groups when you visit the Wilderness? The Wilderness Solitude Catalog can help you avoid the crowds. It lists the congested destinations and trailheads to avoid in each wilderness area. It provides a checklist for discovering lonely trails and campsites. It includes the Forest Service Ranger Stations to contact for personal help in your solitude search. The Catalog does not list specific solitude areas. Publicizing these sites in a brochure would soon destroy the tranquility you are hoping to find. Instead, this guide helps you discover these spots on your own.



USDA • FOREST SERVICE
Pacific Northwest Region

GOAT ROCKS WILDERNESS

1. For maps and solitude tips contact:

USDA • Forest Service

Packwood Ranger Station
Packwood, WA 98361
(206) 494-5515

Randle Ranger Station
Randle, WA 98377
(206) 497-7565

Tieton Ranger Station
Naches, WA 98937
(509) 672-4101

2. Crowded areas to avoid:

Dana Yelverton Shelter
Goat Ridge and Goat Lake Area
Ridges both north and south of Nannie Creek
Packwood Saddle
Skeeter Shelter
Snowgrass Flat Area and nearby trails

3. Busy trailheads to avoid:

Berry Patch parking lot (to Snowgrass)
Leech Lake
North Fork of Tieton River
Packwood Lake parking lot
Walupt Lake

MT. ADAMS WILDERNESS

1. For maps and solitude tips contact:

USDA • Forest Service

Mt. Adams Ranger Station
Trout Lake, WA 98650
(509) 395-2501

Packwood Ranger Station
Packwood, WA 98361
(206) 494-5515

Randle Ranger Station
Randle, WA 98377
(206) 497-7565

2. Crowded areas to avoid:

Climber's Camp (High Camp)
Divide Camp
Horseshoe Meadows
Lookingglass Lake
Southern approach to Mt. Adams

3. Busy trailheads to avoid:

Cold Springs Campground
(for maximum solitude, enter from
Yakima Indian Reservation side—
Costs \$1 to enter).

WILDERNESS SOLITUDE CATALOGUE

Pacific Northwest Region

319 SW Pine Street, P.O. Box 3623, Portland, Oregon 97208

R6-Rec-015-1980

A great idea and a good example of a brochure which provides information about areas and trailheads to avoid because of overuse or crowding. A good tool to help manage overcrowding.

W i l d e r n e s s W a t e r :
preserve its purity, protect your health



Quality Outdoor Gear and Clothing Since 1938

WILDERNESS WATER: preserve its purity, protect your health.

Recreational Equipment Inc.,
P.O. Box C-88216, Seattle, WA 98188-0126

Good information about water quality and safety on a colorful 3-fold brochure. REI allows use of the information and ideas in the brochure, but ask that they be given credit.

BROCHURES

WITHOUT A TRACE the Wilderness Challenge



Forest Service · USDA
Pacific Northwest Region

WITHOUT A TRACE - The Wilderness Challenge
Pacific Northwest Region - Recreation
319 SW Pine St., P.O. Box 3623, Portland, OR 97208
A brochure on low-impact techniques using cartoons.
Cartoons can be drawn to address local problems
and include local wilderness scenery.

EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS

"THE IMPACT MONSTER"

A terrific skit targeting elementary school students. First developed by the Eagle Cap Ranger District, Wallowa-Whitman National Forest, Southwest Region, the skit has been tailored by various units. This version is from the Mesa Ranger District, Tonto National Forest, Southwestern Region, Federal Building, 517 Gold Avenue, Albuquerque, NM 87102. Active participation is required of students. Can be modified to best fit your situation.

THE IMPACT MONSTER

as presented by

The Superstition Wilderness Crew

Mesa Ranger District, Tonto National Forest

INTRODUCTION

Write on board:

Tonto National Forest
Forest Supervisor
2324 E. McDowell
POB 5348
Phoenix, AZ 85010
602-225-5200

Tonto National Forest
Mesa Ranger District
26 N. MacDonald
POB 5800
Mesa, AZ 85211
602-261-6446

Each Wilderness Information Specialist introduces him/her self and talks about one aspect of WISing: in-towns, trailheads, and backcountry:

"Hi, my name is Martha. I work for the Mesa Ranger District of the Tonto National Forest. I'm part of a volunteer crew that works at the Superstition Wilderness. That's just east of town, by Apache Junction. Have any of you been there? I'm a Wilderness Information Specialist or WIS for short. Part of our job is to go to schools, hiking clubs, and Boy/Girl Scout troops and give programs about Wilderness and how to take care of it. We tell people about new ways to camp, we call these new ways no-trace camping; how to leave your campsite looking like no one has ever been there.

"Hi, I'm Buford. Another part of our job is trailhead registration. The trailhead is where the road ends and the trail begins. We camp out at the trailhead for 5 days at a time. We don't have electricity, television or running water. We talk to people who hike in the wilderness; we tell them how to take care of the place. We also register people and find out where they're going. We hike the trails and pick up trash, clean campsites, and talk to people on the trail.

"Hi, I'm Peabody. The last part of our job is the most fun. That's backcountry patrol and maintenance. We hike into the backcountry for 5 or 10 days at a time, carrying everything we need in our backpacks. Sometimes, we don't see any other people for the whole time we're out there. We work on trails; cut the brush so it's easier to walk the trails, install waterbars to drain water off the trail, and clean up campsites. In our spare time, we hike the trails and enjoy the scenery.

Scene shifts back to Narrator, 2 WISes hold up Tonto map.

NARRATOR: "All this dark green area is the Tonto NF, it's 3 million acres- that's pretty big! We're over here in the Valley (points), here's the Superstitions, where we work, etc... (point to some other landmarks - Payson, Mogollon Rim, Salt/Verde rivers, lakes....)

How many of you have been to a National Forest? What did you find there? Answers include animals, plants, lakes, pine trees, cabins, people, etc.

*Can you have a desert forest? Of course you can - much of the Tonto is desert. What would you find in a desert forest? Answers include snakes, cactus, animals, etc.....*This question is optional, if you remember to ask, ask.

What did you do when you went to the forest? Answers: camping, hiking, driving, swimming, fishing, bird-watching, 4-wheeling, etc

NARRATOR: Ask other questions to elicit answers - Did you stay in a campground or camp by the side of the road? What can you do in the winter (snow activities)? What can you do at the lakes?

How do you get to the forest? Answers: Drive. "And if you drive a car, there must be roads. Some are paved, some are dirt; maybe some of you have gone 4-wheeling on the dirt roads.

There is much you can see and do in the National Forests. Now Buford is going to talk to you about a special part of the forest.

NOTE: The purpose of this section is to get the kids to realize that there are cars, buildings, roads, etc., multi-use-cows, timber, recreation in the forest. If they don't mention something, try to get it out of them, ask questions "Did you go skiing, 4-wheeling, etc....."

Scene shifts to Ranger 2. The person who plays the Ranger in the play usually takes this part.

RANGER 2: "These areas outlined in black (points) are special parts of the forest, Wilderness areas. Here are the Superstitions, where we work. There are hundreds of Wilderness areas in the National Forests and Parks. What do you think a Wilderness is? What is the first part of the word Wilderness? WILD... that's right, Wilderness is a wild, natural place.

In 1964, Congress passes the Wilderness Act. This set aside large and small areas of land that were to be left in a natural state. Wilderness is a place where the plants and animals and rocks are untouched by man; Mother Nature is in charge. Man is a visitor who does not remain.

There is something else that is special about a Wilderness, no motorized or mechanical equipment or transportation is allowed. There aren't any permanent or man-made structures.

When you go to a wilderness, it will be like the land was before people - the Indians and the pioneers, ever got here.

Now, remembering that a Wilderness is a natural place, where man is just a visitor, what are some things you *would not* find in a Wilderness? Answers: cars, buildings, roads, stores. You might need to ask: Would you find a bicycle? (Explain) a campground? Drinking fountain, trash can, picnic table? Explain, no permanent structures, you need to bring everything with you.

What are some things you *would* find in a wilderness? Answers: plants, animals, rocks, cactus, people (sometimes), Rangers (sometimes), trails (sometimes).

If you can't take your car or your bike, how do you get around? By hiking and horseback.

Now Peabody will tell you about what can happen when people go to a Wilderness.

Scene shifts to Ranger 3. The person who plays the Impact Monster usually does this part.

RANGER 3: I'm going to tell you about a special word - IMPACT -(hold up sign, write on board, or not!). Do you know what Impact means? (Get 1 or 2 replies). An IMPACT is a change. For example, when you hit the ball with a baseball bat, the ball changed direction. (Use other examples if you wish).

When people go to a Wilderness, they do things that IMPACT or CHANGE the Wilderness. Some things are good impacts, some are bad. What are some BAD IMPACTS? Answers: littering, killing plants or animals (explain hunting).

RANGER 3: BAD IMPACTS: Vandalism, fire (explain differences between natural and man-caused).

What are some GOOD IMPACTS? Answers: Picking up trash, being nice to nature, putting out fires, planting/watering plants, animals (Explain, we let Mother Nature do that in the Wilderness, may be done on other parts of the forest.)

Scene shifts back to Narrator.

NARRATOR: We'd like to take you to the Wilderness and show you how **special** it is, but we're not able to do that. So, with your help, we're going to put on a play and create a **desert wilderness** in your classroom. What are some things you would find in a desert wilderness? If you answer **correctly**, you get to be that part in our play.

(You may have to prompt - What tells you where to go? Sign, etc. If they **give** something that's in the desert but not in our play, say "Good answer, but we don't have a lizard (or whatever) in our play. Can you think of something else?")

While Narrator is choosing kids for skit, Ranger is by trunk and hands out costumes to kids and keeps them from running around.

When all "props" have been selected, Ranger 2 and Narrator set up Wilderness scene and tell props their role (hawk, frog, snake, etc.) Ask audience to please be quiet for a few **minutes** while we get set up.

"Now we need a name for our Wilderness. Who has some ideas? (Get two or three ideas, have kids vote.) There are paper "Wilderness signs in trunk. Write in name, pin on board. Sign is optional.

ACT 1: NATURE IN ACTION

NARRATOR: It was a beautiful day in the ____fill in____ Wilderness. A kangaroo rat scurries across the desert floor. He/she is being chased by a hungry coyote, but the rat is too fast and gets away. Meanwhile, a hawk spies the kangaroo rat and swoops down from his perch, catches the rat and takes it back to the perch to eat. Well, that coyote was still pretty hungry, and she/he was walking around searching for food. Soon, he smells something near a palo verde tree. He starts digging, thinking he is on to something good. All he finds is old garbage buried by a thoughtless camper, he/she scatters the garbage looking for something to eat, but doesn't find anything and the poor coyote has to go away hungry.

*As these characters finish their parts, they can turn in their costumes and join the audience.

ACT 2: THE RANGER

NARRATOR: Now we have a visitor to the Wilderness. This visitor really cares about the Wilderness. He/she is tuned in to trash and can see and smell trash for miles. Do you know who this is? It's the Ranger - let's hear it for the Ranger! (Clap)

RANGER: Enters, admires Wilderness beauty, etc. "My what a beautiful day. This is my favorite place. I love being out in the Wilderness." Ranger does the following (and comments about what he is doing and why):

1. Checks trail sign to see if it's damaged or loose.
2. Snake rattles, Ranger jumps, says Hi!, walks around snake: "He/she won't bother me if I leave it alone. I'll get out of his way..." etc.
3. Admires flowers: "I'll leave them here so others can enjoy them..."
4. Sees trash uncovered by coyote, picks it up: "Oh no! Look at all this trash! Hmm, I see tracks, and a hole. I'll bet some careless camper buried their trash and a coyote dug it up. I wish people would pack out their trash..."
5. Says hi to frog.
6. Sets up camp away from trail and water. Explain why - to avoid pollution and for privacy.
7. Gets water from spring, washes at campsite - explain why.
8. Cooks on stove instead of fire: "Not much wood in the desert; stove is fast; pots stay clean, etc."
9. Rolls out ensolite pad and goes to sleep.

ACT 3: THE IMPACT MONSTER

NARRATOR: Now we have another visitor to the Wilderness; someone who doesn't care about the Wilderness.

IMPACT MONSTER: Enters, with ghetto blaster blaring, yelling noisy, etc. "Where am I? The Wilderness?! Boy, I'm going to have a good time...."

Does the following:

1. If possible, I.M. shortcuts trail, stumbles up hill (stairs, for example) upon entering.
2. Carves initials on sign: "I want everyone to know I was here..I.M. - The Impact Monster!!" Turns sign sideways, upside down.
3. Smokes cigarette, throws butt on ground.
4. Sees flower, picks it, throws it away when it wilts.
5. Snake rattles, screams "SNAKE!!", shoots snake several times..."That snake was attacking Me!"
6. Picks campsite right by pond.
7. Looks for bathroom spot, "I need to take care of business"...Pulls out TP roll "Where can I go?" Tries rock, tree, "This saguaro is perfect!" Proceeds to TP cactus.
8. Target practices at cactus. Shoots arm.
9. Needs to wash up. Goes to pond, jumps in with soap, bathes, kills frog. "Hi frog. A little soap for me, a little soap for the frog. The frog croaked! I thought this said 'Fine for Frogs', but it's 'Frog Finisher.'
10. Dinner time. Builds fire ring next to water. Moves rock.
11. Takes branches from tree, puts in fire ring. Lights fire with gas - fire flares up. Warms butt over fire.
12. Fire dies down, uproots tree, puts on fire.
13. Goes to pack looking for food. Throws trash out of pack. "Time to eat. What do I have? Yogurt - too healthy. Finished the chips, a soda....."

ACT 4: CONCLUSION

The trash throwing is the cue for the Ranger to wake up.

RANGER: Hears noise, wakes up, looks around. "Hey, what's going on here? Hey, you - did you make this mess? Did you start the fire? Oh no, the snake's dead...."

I.M: Acts innocent. "Hi, how ya doin'? Me? I just got here. I didn't do this..."

Ranger chases monster, doesn't catch him. Asks for help, gets 2 kids from audience to help him catch monster. Kids catch I.M., Ranger puts trash bag on I.M. and escorts him out of Wilderness.

CONCLUSION:

Ranger leads a question and answer discussion on the impacts created by the I.M. and the differences between how the Ranger acted and what he/she did and how the Impact Monster acted and what he/she did. Ask kids what no-tracing is.

Points to bring out:

1. Choice of campsite
2. Color/noise impacts
3. Dead animals - contrast with hawk and kangaroo rat.
4. Fire ring vs. stove - burnt rocks, dead tree
5. Water - washing away vs. washing in
6. Trash
7. Sign, shortcut
8. Flowers
9. Cactus - TP and "mess"

Discussion finishes when I.M. returns in uniform. "Here's Peabody, he's really not an Impact Monster. He'll show you how to clean this place up.

Impact Monster picks 2 "Junior Rangers" to help clean up. Asks kids "What can we do to clean up?" As kids tell what needs to be done, I.M. and Junior Rangers do task:

1. Pick up trash
2. Put out fire, break up ring
3. Hide dead animals in bushes
4. Bury poop
5. Clean soap suds out of water
6. Pick up flower, fix sign, etc.

Emphasize impacts we can and cannot change: we can break up fire ring, but rocks are permanently burnt: can clean off soap suds, but water is still polluted, etc. Use trowel to demonstrate digging toilet and fire pit.

After the camp is cleaned up, kids return props to box. DON'T de-costume kids as soon as their part is over during the clean-up, it's too distracting.

NARRATOR: Ask kids what they can do the next time they go hiking or camping so they won't be Impact Monsters. They should be aware of: litter, water pollution, killing animals, fire ring alternatives, wood gathering, campsite selection, and being prepared. Emphasize that they should practice no-trace methods everywhere - forest, wilderness, city, state parks, backyard. Tell a friend. Thank class.

Miscellaneous item to throw in at appropriate spots: 1. Don't burn trash, especially aluminum - it doesn't burn; 2. Signs cost money - parent's taxes; 3. Leave gun at home; 4. Orange peels, apple cores, cigarette butts, etc. are trash.

Pass out goodies: Each class gets 1 teacher's kit; 1 Woodsy or Smokey poster; 1 No-Trace brochure; 1 Giardia brochure/ Optional: Keeping the Wild in Wilderness brochure; Woodsy Owl on Hiking/Backpacking/Camping/Fishing/4-Wheeling Brochures.

Each child gets: 1 bookmark or pencil or sticker (4th-6th gr.)
1 balloon or coloring sheet or coin (1st-3rd gr.)

Need for the Wilderness:

*Coyote	Brown burlap
*Kangaroo Rat	Brown burlap with long tail
*Hawk	1 cardboard wings (can stand on chair)
Tree	2 Palo Verde branches
Saguaro	2 cardboard arms
*Frog	Green burlap
*Snake	Rattles
Rocks-3	Cardboard "Rock" signs
Trail sign	Trail sign
Garbage	Old garbage covered with burlap
Flower	Plastic flower

Ranger: Backpack, foam pad, stove, cooking pot, water pot, Woodsy bag, black bag

Impact Monster: Bright clothing, hat, sunglasses, radio, cap gun, TP, box of soap, garbage, cigarettes, backpack, gas can

*These kids have "major" parts in the skit.

1. Coyote chases kangaroo rat, can't catch him; goes away. Later digs up trash, scatters it around, leaves scene.
2. Kangaroo rat is chased by coyote, gets away. Is caught by hawk and carried away.
3. Hawk "swoops" down from perch, catches running kangaroo rat, takes rat back to perch for lunch.
4. Frog croaks when hikers go by; dies when Impact Monster pours soap on him.
5. Snake rattles when hikers go by; dies when shot by I.M.

PERFORMANCE HINTS

1. Speak up! Look at kids, point to them when you call on them. Repeat their answer so everyone can hear. Be animated, move around the stage. Try not to have your back to the audience when you are performing the skit.
2. Don't talk down to the kids, they're smarter than you think.
3. Don't let the kids start telling stories about when they went camping and saw the bear and it was really neat and etc....you'll be there all day.
4. Watch your language - don't get too carried away with being the I.M. Don't use the word "poop", use "mess" instead. Rocks get burnt, not black.
5. Don't be afraid to tell the kids to be quiet - you are in charge - the teachers won't always be there, or they won't do anything.
6. Narrator's duty is to keep things running smoothly - keep an eye on the clock - slow down or speed up as necessary. If really pressed for time, Ranger can do clean-up and skip discussion.
7. Props remain on stage after I.M. leaves stage. They turn in their costumes *after* the campsite is cleaned up.
8. Ranger 3 changes into I.M. while Narrator and Ranger 2 are costuming kids. He/she changes into Ranger while Ranger 2 leads discussion. Know your way to and from the changing area, make sure you have your pass!
9. This script is not carved in stone. Adapt to the situation, put your own personality into the characters. Ranger 3 doesn't *always* have to talk about impacts and be the monster, be comfortable with your part.
10. If you have a stage to perform on, don't use it. Set up skit on floor; it's easier for kids to see and be involved.
11. It is usually easier for new folks to talk about impacts and be the Ranger in the play.
12. If you have time at the end of the show, you can have a short question and answer session.
13. Narrator is responsible for getting a head count. Ask teacher how many kids so you will give each class enough handouts.

CARE AND FEEDING OF THE IMPACT MONSTER

1. Read this before you leave for a show.
2. Make sure you have directions to the school and the name of the contact.
3. Write down all the information in the in-town notebook ASAP after a show. On the sheet, 'Name' refers to WISes performing the show, and 'Contact' refers to the person at the school who scheduled the show.
4. Combine 2 or more shows at one school on the same sheet. In the 'Notes' section, specify the number of shows done.
5. Make sure you have enough teacher's kits and goodies to hand out. Extra handouts should be in the basement WIS cache or with the In-Town Coordinator. If supplies are running low, let the Wilderness Supervisor or the In-Town Coordinator know.
6. Please take care of the costumes, branches and map. Wash and repair as needed. Pack trunk carefully. All the 'stuff' will fit in neatly, there is no need to cram.
7. Make sure that the radio works. Change batteries as needed. Take out batteries when storing for the summer.
8. Make sure that all the costumes and props are present and that there are toilet paper and cigarettes. Clean out the old toilet paper from the trash bags after each show. Get new trash when old stuff gets worn out. Do Not put your lunch trash in I.M. pack.
9. DO NOT put branches in the trunk. Try not to abuse branches during shows and transport. We don't want to have to cut too many branches during the season.
10. HAVE FUN!!

*Laminate this to the top of the Impact Monster trunk

EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS



LEAVE NO TRACE

(A program to teach skills for
protecting the wilderness environment)



Your Name _____



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Intermountain
Region

LEAVE NO TRACE

(A program to teach skills for protecting the wilderness environment)

Intermountain Region

Federal Bldg., 324 25th Street, Ogden, UT 84401

(5 1/2"X 8 1/2")

A well designed program which includes: booklets, tests, certificates,
patches, caps and an 11 minute audio-visual educational program.

A good program for teaching Wilderness Skills.

EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS

1989 NATIONAL WILDERNESS EDUCATION AWARD

Nominations Due August 1, 1989

Creativity and dedication have characterized many of the wilderness education efforts over the past decade. Permanent employees, seasonals and volunteers often have developed materials or delivered programs on their own time. The **Izaak Walton League** is sponsoring the **1989 National Wilderness Education Award** to encourage these outstanding efforts by recognizing excellence in this important aspect of wilderness management.

Nominations will be evaluated by a committee of individuals selected by the Izaak Walton League and the national wilderness coordinators from the Bureau of Land Management, Fish and Wildlife Service, Forest Service, and National Park Service. The committee will include an environmental education teacher, wilderness manager, and wilderness user. First, second and third place awards will be announced at the Wilderness Management Conference in Minneapolis, Minnesota on September 12, 1989. Travel, lodging, per diem and meeting registration costs will be paid for one recipient of first place award.

In considering nominees, look for individuals or groups who have made significant contributions to the design and development of wilderness education material, or who have made significant contributions in the delivery of wilderness education program material to the public. Employees and volunteers of the Departments of Agriculture and Interior, other private or public organizations, and private individuals are eligible.

Objectives:

1. Recognize creative and influential wilderness education programs.
2. Increase the effectiveness of wilderness education programs in terms of people reached and behavior changed.

**Award
Criteria:**

1. Uniqueness of materials or program relative to existing wilderness education efforts (weighted most heavily).
2. Size and variety of audiences reached. Is the message appropriate to the audience reached (age, type of user, geographic-urban/rural location)?
3. Effectiveness in changing behavior to protect wilderness resource values.

Nomination:

A cover sheet for the nomination must include: 1). Nominee's name, organization, address, phone; 2). Sponsor's name, organization, address, phone, and signature of an authorized representative. The sponsor may be a supervisor or person familiar with nominee's wilderness education efforts.

The nomination narrative must include a summary of the project, address each of the three award criteria and **not exceed two pages (single-spaced)**. Supplementary materials such as lesson plans, evaluations, photographs and any other material that illustrate or describe the materials or program may be submitted in addition to the two page nomination narrative. Materials will not be returned unless items are specifically marked "Return to [name, address]" and a self-addressed envelop is included.

Deadline:

August 1, 1989

Send to:

National Wilderness Education Award, c/o Dr. Anne S. Fege, Wilderness Management, Recreation Staff, USDA Forest Service, Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090, phone 202-447-2422.

EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS



THE NATIONAL OUTDOOR LEADERSHIP SCHOOL

P.O. Box AA

Lander, Wyoming 82520

307-332-6973

NOLS CONSERVATION PRACTICES

Revised and updated by Dr. David N. Cole, Research Ecologist, and the Staff of The National Outdoor Leadership School; funded by a grant provided by the NOLS Research Department.

Copyright June 9, 1986

National Outdoor Leadership School

All Rights Reserved

NOLS CONSERVATION PRACTICES

The National Outdoor Leadership School

P.O.Box AA, Lander Wy 82520,

(307) 332-6973--(8 1/2"X 5 1/2")

Excellent 10-page booklet printed by one of the top low-impact promoting organizations in the country. Can be purchased from NOLS for \$2.00/each or can be photocopied with NOLS approval. Information on travel, campsites, fires, sanitation and waste disposal.

EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS

NO-TRACE QUIZ - Good example of a quiz used in conjunction with slide show, video or demonstration. Targeted towards junior high and older.

From the Mesa Ranger District, Tonto National Forest, Southwest Region, Federal Building, 517 Gold Ave., SW, Albuquerque, NM 87102.

1. The Wilderness Act defines wilderness as "an area in which the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man." What does the word untrammelled means?
 - A. That no tram cars shall be allowed to operate within designated wilderness boundaries.
 - B. That hikers and horses shall not trample vegetation in the wilderness to an extent that is unreasonable.
 - C. That humans and their technology cannot attempt to control or restrict plants, animals and natural forces.
 - D. No trails will be built in it.
2. Which of the following are not allowed in the Wilderness?

A. Hunting	D. Signs
B. Mining	E. Cattle
C. Bicycles	F. Canoes
3. Why are switchbacks put in a trail?
 - A. To make the trail longer.
 - B. Observe more scenery
 - C. Prevent erosion
4. Which of these is an example of good Wilderness ethics?
 - A. Take old wood and cactus skeletons home with you to make room for new plants.
 - B. Take only pictures, leave only footprints.
 - C. Take axe or knife to cut new trails for others to follow.
5. After backpacking for 3 days you decide to make camp at Fish Creek, the only water available within 10 miles. Unfortunately you find tin cans and foil scattered around the camping area. How would you dispose of this litter?
 - A. Bury it.
 - B. Pack it out.
 - C. Burn it.
 - D. Scatter it out of sight.
6. When nature calls you must answer. But how will you dispose of the toilet paper?
 - A. Bury it.
 - B. Put it under a rock.
 - C. Use leaves from local vegetation.
 - D. Safely burn it.

7. If horses are met on the trail, what should the hiker do?
- A. Pet the horse to show you are a friend.
 - B. Step off the trail and remain quiet.
 - C. Make loud noise so the horse knows where you're at.
8. Which of the following statements are true?
- A. Campfire rings are necessary and should be left alone.
 - B. Campfire rings are a part of a good wilderness experience.
 - C. Campfire rings are man-made structures.
 - D. Campfire rings are designated areas to camp.
9. What is the No. 1 advantage of a gasoline stove over a wood fire?
- A. Good for simmering stews.
 - B. Frying fish.
 - C. Fast and convenient.
 - D. Lightweight.
10. When you wash your dishes you should:
- A. Wash them well in soapy water and rinse them in the river.
 - B. Wash and rinse them in the river.
 - C. Rinse off food scraps in the river and wash and rinse elsewhere.
 - D. Bury food scraps in a shallow hole and wash and rinse well back from the river.
11. How are foil, twist ties, and cigarette filters best disposed of?
- A. Burying them in a shallow hole.
 - B. Throwing them under a rock.
 - C. Carrying them out with you.
 - D. Burning them in a fire.
12. When is a backpack stove handy to have?
- A. When something needs to be heated quickly.
 - B. When you are too lazy to build and naturalize a wood fire site.
 - C. When it is raining or snowing.
 - D. When you don't want to blacken your cook gear.
 - E. All of the above.
13. What should you do if you encounter a snake on a trail?
- A. Kill it immediately using sticks, rocks or a gun.
 - B. Walk around it, even if it means leaving the trail.
 - C. Get a long stick and push it off the trail.
 - D. Catch it so you can determine if it's dangerous.

14. "No-Trace" means to leave the backcountry undisturbed, so that others will not notice you were there.
- TRUE FALSE
15. A wilderness is the only area which provides for backcountry experiences such as hiking, camping, and horseback riding.
- TRUE FALSE
16. A little time devoted to pre-trip planning will save you a lot of trouble. Before you leave the house, MAKE SURE you have:
- A. Told someone of your specific plans.
 - B. Received a map of the area and have studied it.
 - C. Checked the weather conditions.
 - D. All of the above.
17. What impacts do large groups make without realizing?
- A. Noise.
 - B. Overcrowding of trails.
 - C. Trampling of vegetation.
 - D. All of the above.
18. It's the last night out and you want to indulge in a real campfire. What should you build your campfire with?
- A. Small branches and sticks, easily broken and found on the ground.
 - B. Logs and dead snags littering the area.
 - C. Dead branches and limbs that you break off nearby trees.
19. How far should your campsite be located from rivers, streams, and lakes?
- A. 50 - 100 feet.
 - B. 200 feet or more.
 - C. At least 1/2 mile.
20. When travelling by trail through an area:
- A. It is best to remain on designated trails.
 - B. It is O.K. to short-cut trails because it can save time.
 - C. It is O.K. to start a parallel trail to avoid water and mud.

EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS

PLANNING THE WILDERNESS EDUCATION PROGRAM

We are mandated by Congress to preserve the pristine character of wilderness while providing for its use and enjoyment by the American public. A key to successful wilderness management is the education of the actual and potential wilderness visitors and agency people about the concept of wilderness and **Leave No Trace**. Education offers the best opportunity to increase awareness about wilderness policy, affect attitude changes, and develop an outdoor ethic.

GETTING THE COMMITMENT: Currently there is a national grassroots effort of dedicated and committed individuals using education as a primary wilderness management tool. In many instances, the survival of these education efforts is totally dependent on the commitment of one or two individuals. Active support from all levels of the agency must be developed and promoted to keep alive and expand wilderness education.

Managers must provide leadership for wilderness education, including a commitment to education as a land management responsibility. There must be a structure and network of coordinators and educators accountable for the implementation and ongoing success of the education program. Even when resources and budgets seem to be limited, education can reduce the need for regulations and prevent resource damage that is costly to rehabilitate.

Within the Forest Service, wilderness education can be a key element in implementing the National Recreation Strategy. The Strategy focuses on customer satisfaction, and the development of an outdoor ethic among all users. The Strategy highlights the need to provide interpretation, information, and environmental education as an important part of outdoor recreation--and education about **Leave No Trace** is a feasible and positive way to accomplish the task. Partnerships with educational institutions, knowledgeable and skilled users, user groups and in-service personnel can be enlisted in the effort to develop this education program.

DEVELOPING THE ACTION PLAN: The target audience and message should be identified by local managers in response to resource impacts from recreational use of wilderness and other areas. The audience may be school children, user groups such as hiking or horse clubs, service organizations, and agency personnel. Marketing techniques can be used to determine who the wilderness customers really are, and how to best reach those customers with wilderness information.

A wilderness education program needs to include some basics: the concept and history of the Wilderness Act, the history of wilderness designation (particularly for wildernesses near the local community), **Leave No Trace** camping techniques, and such prohibitions as mechanical transport and motorized equipment. **Leave No Trace** is an excellent way to develop a basic and practical understanding of wilderness since the wilderness concept can be viewed as, "**You are a visitor who does not remain--Leave No Trace**". The basic message is contained in the brochure on page 12 of this publication. Greater detail is provided in the **NOLS Conservation Practices, Soft Paths** book, and the following publication: **Low-impact Practices for Wilderness Use**, by David N. Cole (USDA For. Serv. Gen. Tech. Rep. INT- , to be published in 1989).

The action plan could be developed and implemented with an education task force, composed of Regional and Forest-level education coordinators. Such a task force should meet regularly with public affairs staff and line managers, to modify the plan to reflect changes in the wilderness resource and use patterns. Coordination with community groups can also be streamlined and shared through the task force.

Regions could sponsor a wilderness management education workshop involving National Forest staff responsible for wilderness, recreation, and public affairs. A problem solving session could identify major wilderness resource problems, who is causing them, what type of **Leave No Trace** message is needed to change behavior, and how to get the message to the target audience. Participants could also examine agency training needs necessary to reduce impacts occurring from the agency's own activities. For example, what low-impact methods can trail and fire crews use while working and camping in the wilderness? How can we set a better example, and where do we need to improve? To close out the workshop, participants could write a simple 1-2 page action plan for their respective Forests.

Research must be an integral part in developing, implementing and evaluation programs within the agency. Who are the wilderness users? Will the **Leave No Trace** practices protect the resource and do they provide choices for our customers? Is the delivery system working and how can it be improved? How successful are we in changing behavior? Research on these questions has been and continues to be conducted by the Wilderness Management Research Unit at the Intermountain Forest and Range Experiment Station in Missoula, Montana.

INVOLVING THE COMMUNITY: Wilderness belongs to the public, and Federal agencies need cannot take care of it without the public's help. Wilderness education programs need to be planned and carried out with individuals and groups in the community. Organizations such as the Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Hunter Education, and 4-H already offer some type of educational outdoor training. The Forest Service can work with these organizations to develop and tailor a **Leave No Trace** message within these programs, and provide local assistance in teaching young people. For example, the Forest Service Intermountain Region has developed a "Wilderness Skills" program with the Boy Scouts, and the Bureau of Land Management is now working with them to develop a merit badge on outdoor ethics.

Leave No Trace techniques are applicable to all outdoor activities and both private and public land. The message can be targeted to such audiences as skiers, backpackers, campers in developed sites, city park users, hunters, and off-road vehicle users. The new **Tread Lightly** program was built on the **Leave No Trace** message, specifically targeted to snowmobilers, motorcyclists, bikers, and other off-road vehicle users. The hunter education program, "Leave No Trace: The Hunter's Code", was developed to address resource problems in Idaho and Montana wilderness, but the program's message applies outside wilderness. This program provides guidance for acceptable behavior in the outdoors, and can help create a positive image for hunters in their use of both private and public land.

EDUCATION PROGRAM IDEAS:

Sponsor a "Wilderness Awareness Day" on each National Forest to inform agency employees about wilderness management, **Leave No Trace** programs, and the importance of wilderness education.

Develop a cadre of wilderness educators on each National Forest, drawn from those who are good public speakers and have an interest in environmental education and/or wilderness.

Promote wilderness education by giving awards for outstanding work.

Work within existing agency programs. The Woodsy Owl environmental education program can deliver the **Leave No Trace** message to school children, since it is very popular at the kindergarten through third grade level. Use the Good Host program. If agency personnel are well informed about wilderness principles and **Leave No Trace** concepts, they will more likely be good hosts and provide on-site education rather than relying on regulations or other heavy-handed management alternatives.

Incorporate wilderness information into the Interpretive Services and public information programs. Managers should explore and take every opportunity to advance **Leave No Trace** methods and the outdoor ethic. Visitor Information Centers could have a display on **Leave No Trace** techniques applicable to the local area. Publications, brochures, and other interpretive materials could mention proper outdoor behavior. When speaking to the public or community groups on any natural resource issues, the **Leave No Trace** message can encourage the public to use National Forests in a responsible manner.

Credit: Bob Oset, Wilderness Ranger, Bitterroot National Forest

EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS

WILDERNESS EDUCATION PROGRAM - An excellent example of a Wilderness Education program for a schools. Program is well thought out and organized. Judging by the student responses, it seems to be very worthwhile. Contact the Powell Ranger District, Clearwater National Forest, Northern Region, Federal Building, 200 E. Broadway Street, P.O. Box 7669, Missoula, MT 59807.

Wilderness Education Program Goals

- To give all Missoula area 6th graders a wilderness education presentation.
- To give wilderness management presentation to Missoula area high school forestry classes.
- To train other wilderness rangers and Wilderness Institute staff, University of Montana, in giving these programs.
- To develop and use some type of wilderness skills course.

In the first 9 months of this effort we gave 43 wilderness education presentations and conducted the Wilderness Skills Course on two occasions. A total of 17 people (wilderness rangers and Wilderness Institute staff) were involved. Every Missoula area 6th grade class received a wilderness education presentation. Two local high school forestry classes received a presentation on wilderness management. The skills course was used at the University of Montana Wilderness Information Fair and a Boy Scout Jamboree. We also sponsored the First annual Wilderness Education Workshop. Wilderness rangers from six major Wilderness Areas in Region One attended the workshop to discuss ongoing wilderness education efforts, and share approaches and techniques

Many management problems, such as resource degradation at campsites, could be alleviated through wilderness education. With limited funds in most districts for wilderness management, and wilderness access virtually unlimited, the chance of contacting all visitors in the backcountry is minimal. Community programs aimed at potential visitors are the most efficient means of wilderness education. One major problem with an education effort of this type is the lack of direction, leadership, and cooperation within the Forest Service. In fact, we have even noticed a hesitancy within the agency to get involved in wilderness education.

It appears that part of the hesitancy results from concern that the agency will become involved in an advocacy role. We believe it is imperative that the wilderness rangers step into an advocacy mode. By this we do not mean that wilderness rangers should publically advocate that new areas be added to the wilderness system. We believe, however, that they should advocate an understanding of what wilderness is, what values can be found there and how visitors can minimize their impact on the wilderness. If the managing agency won't "advocate" an understanding and wise use of the wilderness resource, who will? And if some outside organization, like Montana Wilderness Association, decides to mount a wilderness education effort alone will it be as effective?

Many upper level Forest Service employees talk of the days when it used to be "part of the job" to visit local schools. Bill Worf, retired Recreation and Lands Director for the Northern Region, first decided he wanted to be a forest ranger when a Forest Service ranger came and talked to his sixth grade class. There's no doubt about the effectiveness of a program given by a uniformed wilderness ranger. We believe it would be beneficial to take the "garbage collecting, ticket writing" wilderness rangers out of the woods for two weeks each spring or fall and have them give wilderness education programs. With adequate direction, leadership, and cooperation, they will develop an effective wilderness education effort.

Example of a Sixth Grade Program

Part I In Classroom

- Who I am
- Where I work
- Where Missoula is in relation to all the surrounding wilderness areas (use map)
- Definitions (ask kids)
 - Wilderness
 - Untrammelled (give hint: trammel = horse collar)
 - Solitude
- What I think Wilderness is (Use slide or **Vision of the Wild** videotape)
- Things you don't see in Wilderness
- Exceptions
 - Pre-established uses
 - Airstrips
 - Mining
 - Grazing
- Things you see in Wilderness
- Take a trip (show management problems, give answers)
 - Trail erosion
 - Problem campsite
 - Resource damage
- General scenery
 - Tie everything together
 - Give them a good feeling about Wilderness

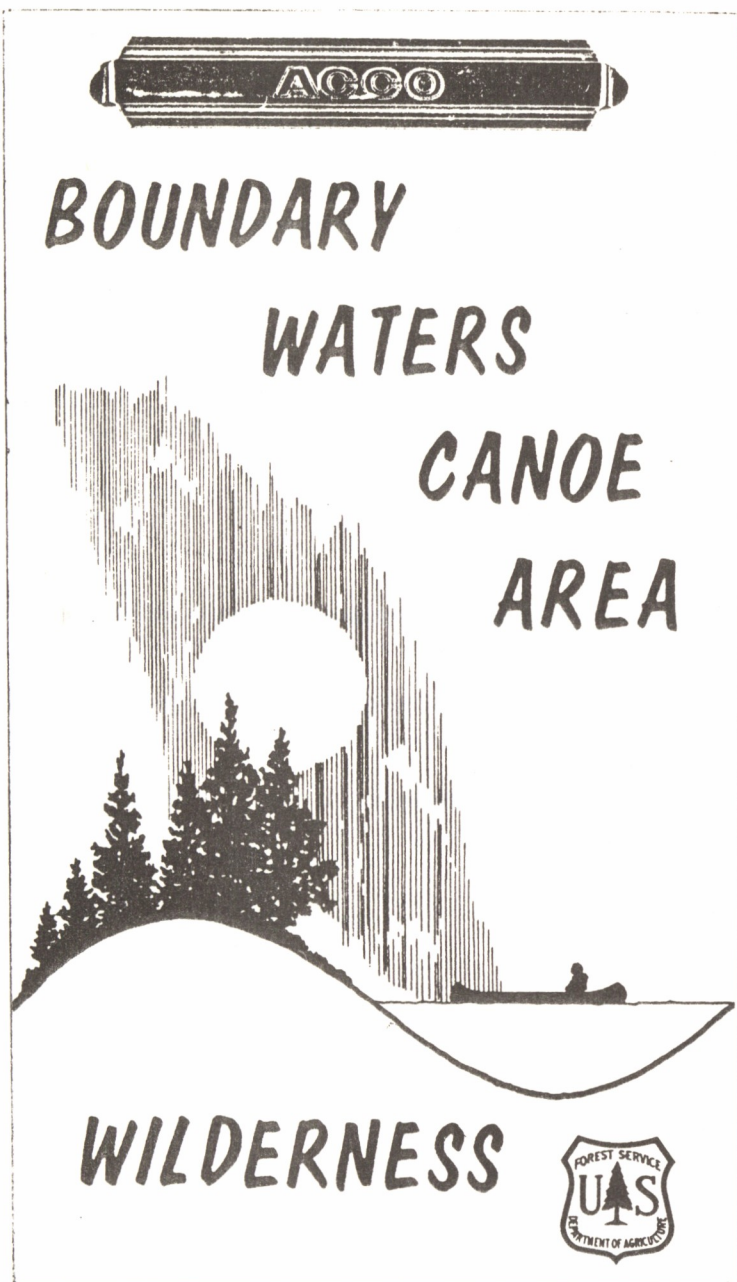
Part II In Classroom (if it is raining)

- Show backpacking equipment
 - Lightweight vs. heavy
 - Different materials
 - Camping practices (with reasons)
- Tell a few Wilderness Ranger stories

Outside On School Playground (if nice weather)

- Make them all Wilderness Rangers, take them on a trip
- Have a campsite set up
 - Trash spread around
 - Fire ring (with aluminum foil in it)
 - Tent
 - Soap and towel by the stream
 - Have backpack there
- What should we do first
 - Have kids clean up all the trash
 - Discuss problems (soap by stream, fire ring, etc.)
- Show them camping equipment from backpack
 - Discuss the advantages of minimum impact camping techniques

HANDBOOKS



BOUNDARY WATERS CANOE AREA -- WILDERNESS

Superior National Forest

Eastern Region

310 West Wisconsin Ave., Room 500, Milwaukee, WI 53203

(7"X 4") 92 pages

Excellent example of a pocket-sized handbook for field use.

Covers responsibilities, orientation, authorities, and
about everything a Wilderness Ranger needs.

Wilderness Ranger Handbook



**Eagle Cap Ranger District
Wallowa-Whitman National Forest**



WILDERNESS RANGER HANDBOOK - Wallowa-Whitman National Forest

Pacific Northwest Region

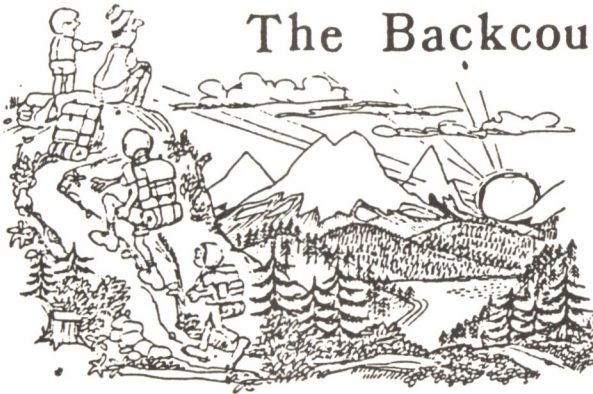
319 SW Pine Street, P.O. Box 3623, Portland, OR 97208

(7"X 8 1/2") 129 pages

Excellent example of a book-sized handbook for Wilderness field folks.

Covers responsibilities, procedures and low-impact messages
for public contact.

LEAFLETS



The Backcountry Ethic

BACKCOUNTRY ETHIC means minimum impact camping. We no longer have the luxury of going into the backcountry to treat it as something to be conquered and used. We must now treat it as a fragile environment if we are to have unspoiled backcountry.

LIMIT THE SIZE of your group to no more than ten. Keep your noise level low.

SHORTCUTS CAUSE EROSION. Please stay on the established trail which is designed to minimize this situation.



LEAVE THE FLOWERS for others to enjoy. And let the wildlife find their own food. Eggshells and fruitpeels aren't their kind of food.

WATCH YOUR STEP - the alpine tundra is delicate. When you can, walk on rocks or snow above timberline.

WHEN VISITING POPULAR AREAS, your impact will be less if you leave your dog at home.

BE A MYSTERY CAMPER! Don't leave a clue where you've been!

USE AN ESTABLISHED CAMPSITE when possible OR

CAMP ONLY ON HARD GROUND away from streams, lakes, and the trail to reduce your impact and increase your privacy.

PACK OUT WHAT YOU PACK IN, along with anyone else's you might find along the way. Remember - aluminum and plastic don't burn!



MAKE SURE ALL FIRES are dead out, or better still, use a lightweight campstove.

EVEN SO-CALLED "BIODEGRADABLE" SOAP POLLUTES cold, high country water. Wash away from streams and throw dirty water away from water sources.

USE A SMALL SPADE to bury feces 4" to 6" within the organic layer of soil and away from water and the trail.

EDUCATE OTHERS IN THE BACKCOUNTRY ETHIC!

Holy Cross Ranger District



R-2

THE BACK COUNTRY ETHIC - Example of a message sheet with low-impact emphasis.

BACKPACKER REMINDER NOTES FOR WILDERNESS RANGERS



Forest Service • USDA
Pacific Northwest Region

HELLO! While you were gone, I visited your campsite and was sorry to have missed you. To make your stay, and that of others, as safe and pleasant as possible, please. . . .

Use backpack stoves for cooking; vegetation grows slowly at this elevation and firewood has become scarce. Leave the gnarled snags for everyone's scenic pleasure.

Use established fire rings where they exist; new fire rings should be obliterated and the area returned to as near natural as possible.

Camp away from lakeshores and streambanks—they easily become muddied and trampled. Remember, the water must be used by yourself and others for drinking. So wash away from streams and lakes; use biodegradable soap and spread your waste water.

Pack out your garbage; if someone else left theirs, try to carry it out also.

Make sure your fire is dead out before leaving.

I challenge you to think of other ways to protect and enhance this unique area.

BACKPACKER REMINDER NOTES FOR WILDERNESS RANGERS

Pacific Northwest Region

319 SW Pine Street, P.O. Box 3623, Portland, Oregon 97208

A booklet of tear-out notes to be left at unattended camps.

Includes low impact messages. Workbook can be easily packed,
back is blank for special notes.

Role of Fire Within Wilderness

Gila National Forest

June 1987

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Southwestern
Region

Fire

Man usually regards fire as an agent of destruction, but to nature, it is an agent of change. Fire changes one form of energy to another. Green plants change light energy to chemical energy; fire changes chemical energy to heat energy. The amount of heat released in a fire depends upon the amount of stored chemical energy in the fuel and the amount of fuel that is burning.

Fire breaks down complex organic molecules to smaller ones. When a fire changes a log to ash, nutrients bound in chemical compounds in the log are released and changed to a form that is more water soluble. In this soluble form, nutrients percolating into the soil are again used in the growth of other plants. In hot fires, when great quantities of fuel are burning, a few nutrients escape into the atmosphere rather than return immediately to the soil.

Fire also affects a more obvious change. Ash and nutrients occupy less space than trees and shrubs. By creating openings in the forest, fire changes space relationships.



Dense, result of no fire.

Scientists who study the interrelationship of plants, animals and the places they live, tell us that the forests in this part of the country owe their existence and continued presence to a long history of periodic fires. This association of some tree and shrub species with fire is an example of survival of the fittest.

The kinds of forest growing in the Gila's wildernesses have existed for thousands of years. During that time, hundreds of fires occurred annually. Plant species that survived fires did so because of special features or characteristics they possessed. Plant species lacking these features were eliminated from frequently burned areas and their distribution confined to areas where fires were less likely to occur: moist, north-facing slopes and creek bottoms.

Fires, like many natural phenomena, are somewhat cyclic.

History

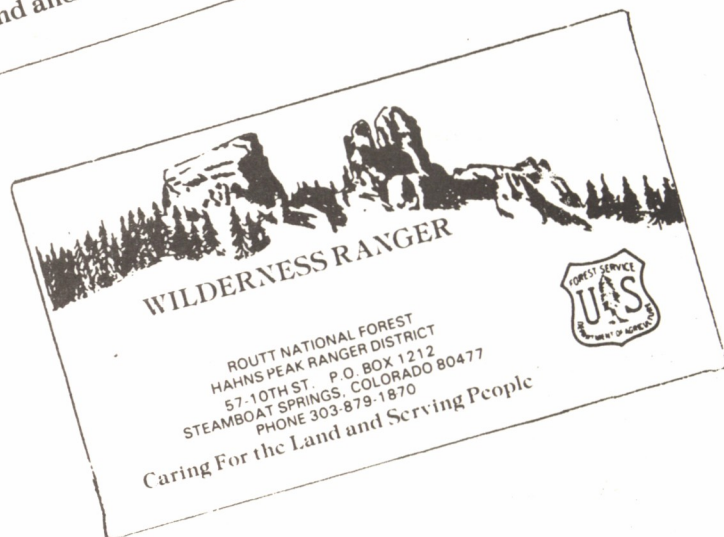
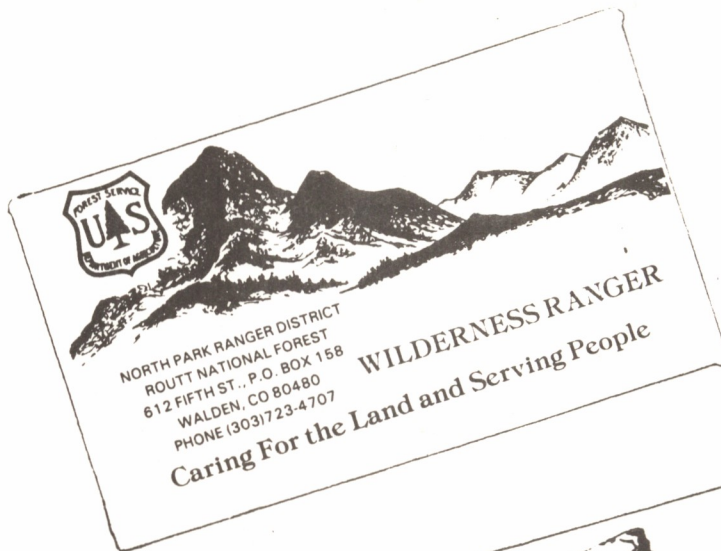
Prior to the 1900's, fire frequencies within the Gila, Aldo Leopold, and Blue Range wildernesses were primarily allowed to run their course without human interference. Studies within the ponderosa pine vegetative type of the Gila Wilderness have indicated a natural fire interval averaging every four to eight years with the intervals ranging from one year to as long as twenty-six years. Following the 1900's, a 60-year period of ever increasing fire control activities was present. Fire suppression activities have contributed to conditions of unnaturally dense, even-aged stands of ponderosa pine reproduction and increased accumulations of dead woody ground fuels.

Wilderness Fire Management Objectives

The objectives of fire management in the Gila, Aldo Leopold, and Blue Range wildernesses are threefold. First, to permit lightning-caused fires to play, as nearly as possible, their natural ecological role within wilderness. Second, reduce to an acceptable level, the risks

"ROLE OF FIRE WITHIN WILDERNESS" - Example of a good information pamphlet. Four pages. Gila National Forest, Southwest Region, Federal Building, 517 Gold Avenue, SW, Albuquerque, NM 87102.

OUTREACH



PRINTED BUSINESS CARD FOR FOREST OFFICERS (COMPLIANCE CHECKERS)
AND WILDERNESS RANGERS. THE INDIVIDUAL CAN STAMP IN HIS OR HER NAME.
THIS GIVES A SPECIFIC CONTACT FOR OUR GUESTS TO FOLLOW UP.
ESTIMATED COST: \$50.00/1000.

OUTREACH

I understand you will be hunting in the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness. All of us at the Moose Creek Ranger District would like to welcome you. If we can be of any assistance, please let us know. I've enclosed a district map and booklet about the area that you should find interesting.

Your decision to hunt in a designated Wilderness gives you an unusual opportunity to experience a special area, one which will both challenge and reward your skills as an outdoorsman. It also places a responsibility on you to help us and your outfitter keep the 'wild' in Wilderness.

Specifically, I hope you will be especially aware of litter, both in camp and while hunting. The Wilderness Act states that in Wilderness "the imprint of man shall be substantially unnoticeable." Footprints wash away with the first rain but pop-tops and cigarette butts seem to outlast us all.

For the same reason, I hope you will be careful with fire. We have a fire management program which allows fire to resume its role in shaping the Wilderness resource. Man-caused fires, however, have no place in the Wilderness and we will make every effort to suppress them.

This is rugged, isolated country and your visit will be much more rewarding if you have prepared yourself, physically and mentally. The best advice I can give is to listen to your outfitter and respect his advice.

Your outfitter has a responsibility to maintain the quality of the Wilderness in addition to providing you with an opportunity for a quality outdoor experience. These two objectives need not conflict. The Forest Service administers an annual permit which allows the outfitter to do business on public land. He must maintain his camps and conduct his operation in keeping with the Wilderness concept outlined in the Wilderness Act and policy. The Wilderness Act defines Wilderness as an area "without permanent improvements...".

It goes on to prohibit "structures and improvements." The Wilderness outfitter, therefore, cannot have permanent structures in his camps and is allowed only two weeks prior to opening-day to set up these camps. These facilities will likely be less elaborate than a camp on unclassified National Forest land.

Your outfitter provided your name and address and this opportunity to contact you. I'm pleased to have been able to do so and hope you have a successful hunt. If you have a chance to stop by the Ranger Station, please do so. The coffee pot is always on.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM B. HICKS
District Ranger

Enclosures

LETTER - Example of letter used to communicate with Wilderness hunters. You should be able to get a list of hunters from your state Game Commission.

OUTREACH

Dear Wilderness Users,

In the past ten years use in the Superstition Wilderness has grown tremendously. Last year alone over 23,000 people were registered as they entered the wilderness through the two most popular trailheads. Due to the amount of use in many areas the wilderness resource is being severely impacted. Damage is in the form of trampled vegetation, eroded trails, overused campsites, and large amounts of litter. Public education on proper backcountry use is essential in preserving our wilderness heritage. For this reason we are offering to your group the following programs in hopes that you will take the wilderness challenge to go softly on the land and serve as an example to other outdoor users. These programs cover such subjects as wilderness ethics, philosophy, no trace camping techniques, local history, and other information concerning the Superstition and other wilderness areas as requested.

Programs Offered:

1. Slide Presentations

- a. Without a Trace: The Wilderness Challenge - This slide program covers backcountry and no trace camping techniques, and is an excellent experience for groups who backpack or dayhike. Other information is shared on special areas of interest as well as hiking trails in and around the Superstition Wilderness.
- b. Go Lightly on the Land - This slide presentation is designed to cover all aspects of horseback use in the backcountry and gives the beginner as well as the experienced horseman a few tips on minimum impact camping while using livestock.

Both of these programs are approximately 30 to 45 minutes long.

2. Video Presentations

- a. The first program is an excellent video produced by the Southwest Region of the Forest Service dealing with no trace camping and wilderness philosophy.
- b. Trails of the Superstitions is another video presentation that combines wilderness philosophy and the colorful history of the local area. It talks briefly on minimum impact and no trace camping policies. Both of these programs last approximately 30 minutes to an hour depending on your request.

3. The Rain or Shine Wilderness Skills Trail is a ten station display set up on easels covering such topics as wilderness history, no trace camping, personal hygiene, use of fire, and care of historical and archaeological sites. Participants receive a quiz book and are encouraged to walk through the stations, read the displays, and test their knowledge. Forest Service employees are stationed around the trail to answer questions as needed.

4. The Traveling Display is a condensed version of the Skills Trail. It covers basically the same topics using poster boards on easels and can also be set up on tables. It begins with a short introduction on wilderness philosophy and history, then goes into the different types of visitor use and how they affect the wilderness resource. The participants then view the displays and are encouraged to ask questions. This program can be done alone or can be combined with any of the slide or video presentations. Depending on the combination of presentations, this show will run from 30 minutes to an hour.

5. Lectures are also offered on all wilderness subjects and any combination of the above presentations is possible.

The Superstition Wilderness is one of the most visited wilderness areas in the entire southwest. Because of this high use and the potential for extensive resource damage, we must all work together to preserve the integrity and value of Arizona's wilderness. We at the Mesa Ranger District sincerely hope that your group will help set an example for other groups by always checking with your local Forest Service office about the rules and regulations of the area in which you are visiting. Let's all work hard at keeping the Wild in Wilderness. We sincerely hope that these programs will be of interest to your group and can fit into your activity schedule. Feel free to contact us and schedule any one of the above programs through our Environmental Education Coordinator or our Wilderness Ranger, Greg Hansen, by calling (602) 261-6446 or write us at P.O. Drawer A, Mesa, Arizona 85201.

Sincerely,


DONALD A. VAN DRIEL
District Ranger

WILDERNESS EDUCATION PROGRAM - An excellent example of a Wilderness Education program for a schools. Program is well thought out and organized. Judging by the student responses, it seems to be very worthwhile. Powell Ranger District, Clearwater National Forest, Northern Region, Federal Building, 200 E. Broadway Street, P.O. Box 7669, Missoula, MT 59807.

OUTREACH

NAME
ADDRESS
CITY, STATE ZIP

Dear Teacher:

I am contacting you on behalf of Mesa Ranger District of the Tonto National Forest. In the past few years use on the National Forest has increased dramatically. Because of the tremendous use in many areas, resources are being severely impacted. Damage to the resource in overused areas is in the form of trampling of vegetation, erosion of trails and campsites, and trash. We feel that public education on land use ethics is essential to help us cope with these impacts. For this reason we are offering to your class a variety of environmental education programs. They are geared to kindergarten thru 5th grade audiences and take approximately one-half to one hour to present.

In "The Impact Monster" we discuss the ecological web of life and move to the impacts, both positive and negative, that man can make in a desert backcountry environment. We use student participation and classroom discussion to encourage problem solving to answer significant impact questions. This program is designed for 4th and 5th grade classes.

The "Woodsy the Owl" presentation has been developed for kindergarten through 3rd grade children and is an excellent introduction to the wonders of environmental education. It covers basic land ethic topics such as litter pick up, proper use of fire and will help plant the seed of environmental awareness. A uniformed narrator begins the program by telling the children about what the Forest Service does. He then introduces Woodsy who talks with the kids on proper land ethics and ends the program with the "Sack, Sack, Sack Your Trash" song. This presentation is approximately one-half hour long and will keep any young class interested.

If you are interested in using this community resource, please contact Greg Hansen, Wilderness Ranger at the Mesa Ranger District at 261-6446.

For those of you who have used this program in the past and are planning to again, we look forward to hearing from you. Impact Monster will only be done from February to April.

Sincerely,

DONALD A. VAN DRIEL
District Ranger

WILDERNESS EDUCATION - SCHOOL OUTREACH - Good example of a letter to teachers offering low-impact and land ethic programs. From Mesa Ranger District, Tonto National Forest, Southwest Region, Federal Building, 517 Gold Ave., SW, Albuquerque, NM 87102.

PERMITS

**WELCOME TO THE ROUTT
NATIONAL FOREST**

Sorry we missed you in your camp. We ask that you pack out all of your trash and dispose of it properly. Stack your tent poles so they may be used again. Please dig a pit for your toilet needs at least 100 feet from water. Fire destroys all resources—Please be careful. Do not leave campfires unattended. Some roads and trails have been closed to motor vehicles, including ATV's. Please observe posted closures. Please note that there is a two week stay limit on the forest. Thank you.

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service
Yampa Ranger District, 300 Roselawn Street, Yampa, CO 80483

_____ Forest Officer
_____ Location
_____ Date & Time
_____ Name, Car, License, etc.

30002

CONTACT TAG THAT CAN BE TIED TO UNATTENDED CAMPSITE GEAR.
USED INSIDE AND OUTSIDE OF WILDERNESS. THE TAG IS FLORESCENT GREEN
CARDSTOCK WITH A WHITE TEAR-OFF CARBON COPY FOR THE
WILDERNESS RANGER. YOU MIGHT WANT TO CONSIDER A
MORE POSITIVE STATEMENT. COSTS ARE NOT KNOWN.

PERMITS

In Wilderness we are all visitors. Wilderness is for our use and enjoyment, but a trip into these special areas means each visitor is charged with the exceptional responsibility to see the area retains its primitive character. Please join us in trying to meet this objective, one of the keenest challenges of the Wilderness Act.

Minimum impact use should be the by-word of all users. Please help keep this wilderness free of restraints by observing the following guidelines and regulations:

FIRE: Fire rings leave a permanent scar on the land. Please do not build rock fire rings. To minimize impact use the pit method or a stove.

WATER: Due to the possibility of harmful organisms in the water we recommend boiling it before drinking. Always wash at least 100 feet from water and use biodegradable soap.

SANITATION: Bury human waste at least 6 inches deep and at least 100 feet from lakes and streams.

HORSES: Picket, hobble and tether animals at least 100 feet from lakes, streams, and trails. Please don't tie horses to green trees. Damage and loss of the tree can result from this practice. Move tied animals frequently to reduce the possibility of vegetation and soil losses. Use only processed feed or pellets while in the wilderness. Hay is prohibited because it may introduce noxious weeds and exotic plants.

CAMPS: Choose campsites which are more than 100 feet from lakes, streams, and trails. Avoid large bare areas or sites which are posted "No Camping" or "Wilderness Restoration". Camping is not allowed within 1/4 mile of Hooper, Keener, Trappers, and Smith Lakes. Camping is allowed at Deer Lake only in designated sites.

EQUIPMENT: Motorized vehicles and equipment are alien to the wilderness environment and are not allowed. Bicycles and hang gliders are also for use only outside the wilderness.

DOGS: Pets must be under the owners control at all times. Loose dogs can harass wildlife and other visitors.

A complete set of regulations is available at Ranger Stations and trailheads.

If you have comments or questions please write them below and deposit at the registration box on your way out.

U.S. Department of Agriculture
U.S. Forest Service

Form Approved OMB No. 40 R0857

Self-Issuing FLAT TOPS WILDERNESS PERMIT

One person from each party should complete this permit prior to entry. Keep the yellow copy in your possession while in the wilderness. Place the white copy in the slot below.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

ARE YOU STAYING (Please Check One) ONLY TODAY _____ OR OVERNIGHT _____

Date your trip starts _____ Date your trip ends _____

What is Your Destination _____

PLEASE LIST YOUR PLANNED CAMP AREAS

Location	Date	Location	Date

How many people are in your group? _____

Traveling — (please check one) on foot? _____ on horseback? _____

How many saddle animals in your group? _____ How many pack animals? _____

How many watercraft with your group? _____

Where did you enter the Flat Tops? _____

Where will you leave the Flat Tops? _____

Signature _____

Please share the information on the reverse side of the yellow copy with the other members of your group. Thank you and welcome to the White River National Forest.

"Self-Issuing" - FLAT TOPS WILDERNESS PERMIT

White River National Forest, Rocky Mountain Region

11177 W. Eighth Avenue, P.O. Box 25127, Lakewood, CO 80225

A good example of a simple technique for gathering information and delivering a message. The back of the permit contains information, regulations and low-impact techniques.

POSTERS

Be a Responsible Hiker

Protect the trail - and yourself from unnecessary slips and falls by staying on the designated path.



Switchback shortcutting destroys fragile vegetation and may ultimately erode the trail away.

Make minor trail repairs if you can or report them to the nearest ranger station.



Walking on the edge of a muddy trail breaks down the tread and creates ugly multiple paths.

 Pacific Northwest Region
USDA Forest Service

☆ GPO 1985-546-502

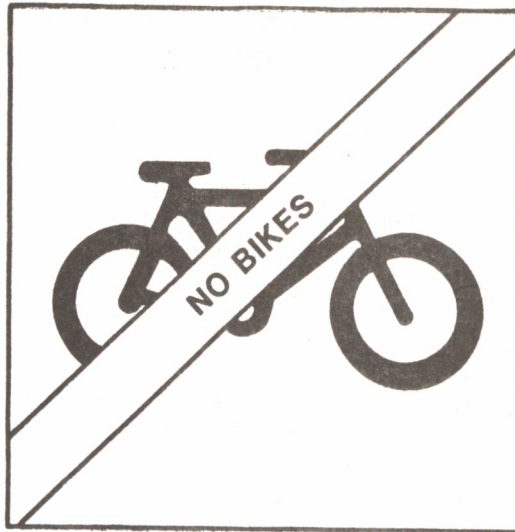
Enjoy Your Visit

BE A RESPONSIBLE HIKER - Pacific Northwest Region
319 SW Pine Street, P.O. Box 3623, Portland, Oregon 97208
(9"X 12")
A good waterproof trailhead poster with low-impact messages.

POSTERS

BICYCLISTS

Wilderness is preserved for
primitive methods of transportation.



Bicycles are prohibited.
Contact Naches Ranger Station for
alternate areas available for bike use.

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Pacific
Northwest
Region



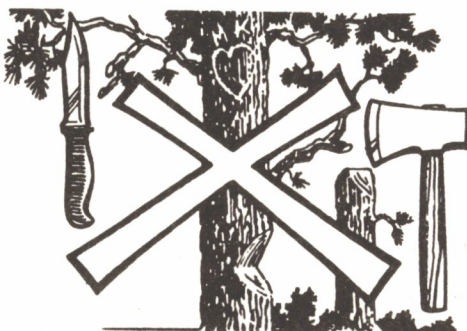
BICYCLISTS

Black on yellow.
(8 1/2"X 11")

Example of trailhead poster prohibiting bicycles in wilderness. On lexan which is waterproof and very durable. It isn't supposed to fade and comes in various thicknesses, colors and can have a 3-M adhesive on the back. Talk to Mike Hiller on the Naches Ranger District, Wenatchee National Forest, Pacific Northwest Region, 319 SW Pine St., P.O. Box 3623, Portland, OR 97208.

For Low Impact

Locate camp
well away
from lakes,
streams
& trails.



Protect live trees
& brush from
axe & knife.

Naturalize
campsite
before
leaving.



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Northern
Region



FOR LOW IMPACT

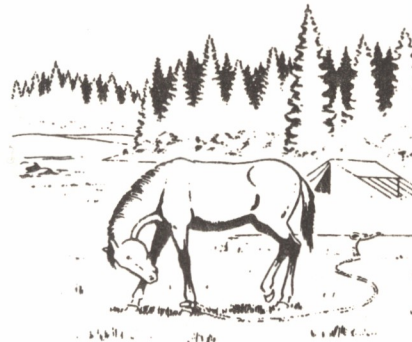
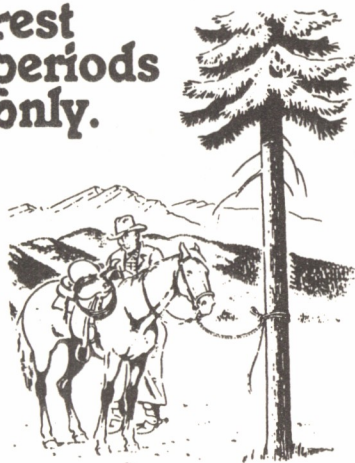
Northern Region, R1-FS-2330-9 (3/84)

Federal Building, 200 E. Broadway St., P.O. Box 7669, Missoula, MT 59807
(11"X 17")

A good waterproof trailhead poster with low-impact messages.
Blue on grey.

HORSEMEN

**Tie stock to
trees for short
rest
periods
only.**



**Locate stock
well away from
campsites,
lakes, and
streams.**

**Use hobbles,
pickets, high-lines,
or hitch rails for
longer periods.**



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Region



HORSEMEN

Northern Region, R1-FS-2330-6 (7/87)
Federal Building, 200 E. Broadway St., P.O. Box 7669, Missoula, MT 59807
(11"X 17")

A waterproof trailhead poster which is not Wilderness specific
but it does address simple low-impact techniques.

Brown on brown.

POSTERS

LAKESHORE CAMPSITE SELECTION



Seek campsites out of view,
avoid vegetated areas and meadows.

Camping within 100 feet
of lakeshores is prohibited.

Camping restrictions are enforced
to protect fragile lakeshore environments.

United States Department of Agriculture
Forest Service



LAKESHORE CAMPSITE SELECTION

(8 1/2"X 11")

A regulation message poster on Lexan and is waterproof

Green with black lettering with graphics.

Naches Ranger District, Wenatchee National Forest

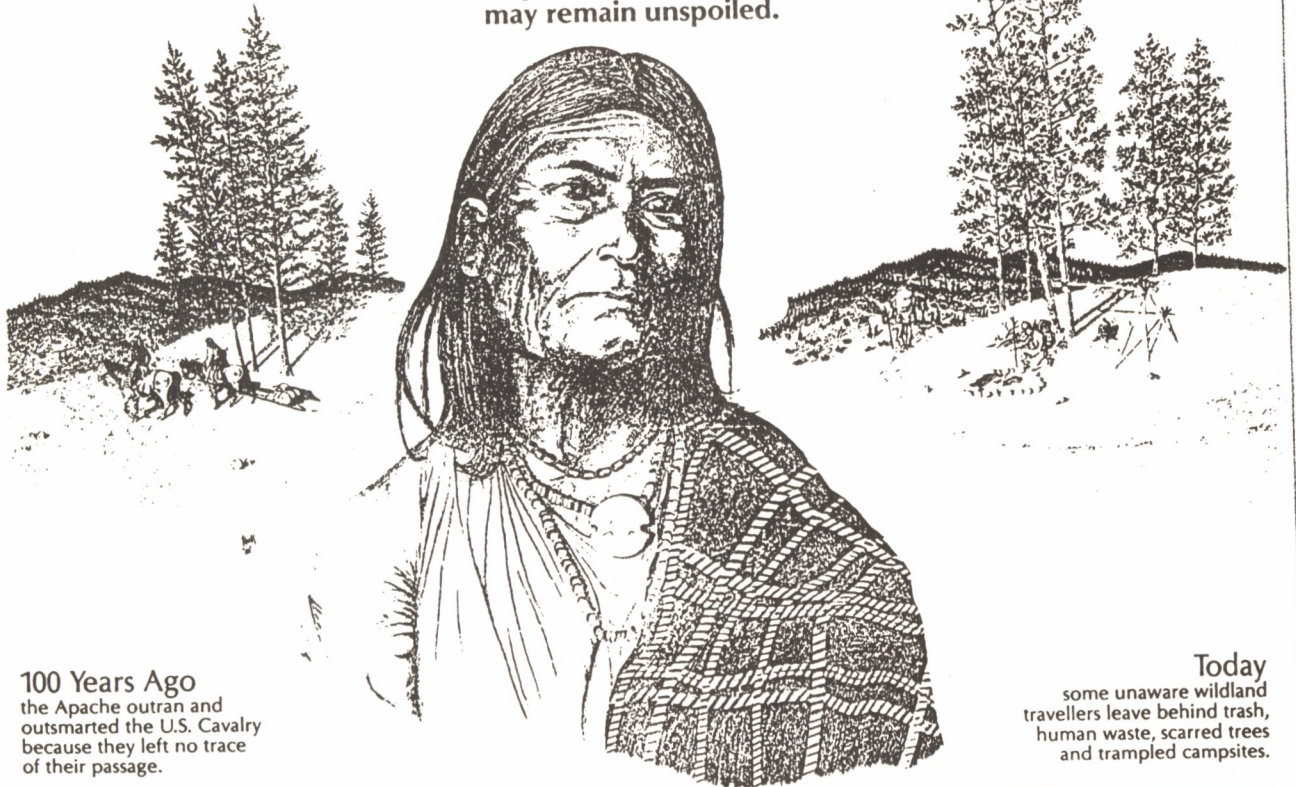
Pacific Northwest Region

319 SW Pine Street, P.O. Box 3623, Portland, OR 97208

POSTERS

Leave No Trace of Your Passing

Hide all traces of your travels as the Apache
hid their passing so these wildlands
may remain unspoiled.



100 Years Ago
the Apache outran and
outsmarted the U.S. Cavalry
because they left no trace
of their passage.

Today
some unaware wildland
travellers leave behind trash,
human waste, scarred trees
and trampled campsites.

LEAVE NO TRACE OF YOUR PASSING

Trailhead poster

A fairly large (18"X 24") waterproof poster
available from the Southwestern Region.

Federal Building, 517 Gold Avenue, Albuquerque, NM 87102

minimum impact camping...

techniques for the new wilderness ethic from REI

1. prepare well



- know about your route and the area
- take adequate food
- bring clothing and equipment that will keep you warm, dry and comfortable
- know the basics of first aid, navigation and minimum impact camping
- know what to do in case of frostbite, hypothermia or avalanche danger

management guidelines

- follow management guidelines
 - write or call for guidelines prior to your trip
- Wilderness is managed for reasons of preservation and solitude. We need such natural places for study, for ensuring the forces of natural change economics, and as a place to renew established rules and customs and bottles, motorized vehicles and the land and the guidelines.



- when possible, position your tent so it is further expansion of the camp environment

Careful selection of campsites can help preserve wilderness. Even when a fire is possible, consider your site. Choose your site's and sounds usually hidden by the fire's draw and use it lightly, leaving it in as natural a state as possible.

5. garbage



- carry out or burn all of your garbage
 - pick up litter as you encounter it
- Be sure to burn or carry out all of your food scraps and packaging. Buried garbage won't stay that way for long, and may be dangerous to small animals. If you fish, be sure to burn or carry out the entrails. If local land managers give you the go-ahead, consider cleaning up a trashy area and caching the garbage for later removal by a ranger.

6. sanitation

- use established latrines if they are provided
 - use a cat-hole if there are no established latrines
- Your family cat can teach you a valuable lesson about wilderness hygiene: how to use a cat-hole. Proceed with trowel in hand to an area at least 100 feet away from water sources, trails and camp. After carefully removing the surface duff, dig a hole several inches into the dirt, put all of your human wastes and toilet paper into the hole, then replace dirt and duff.
- In winter, select a flat area away from drainages. This prevents the waste from entering a water source as the snow melts. Assuming the area is safe from fire hazard, carefully burn your toilet paper during the wet winter months.

7. washing yourself



- try a soapless bath or clothes-wash for all but the most persistent dirt
 - when using soap — even biodegradable soap — wash yourself, your hair and your clothing at least 100 feet away from water
 - brush teeth well away from water sources
- Even when biodegradable, soap is a stress on the environment, so do as much of your cleanup as possible with soapless, hot water. When using any soap to wash yourself or your dishes, use it well away from natural water sources; pour it into highly absorbent ground.

8. washing dishes

- try a soapless cleanup
- for health reasons, wash dishes with hot water when possible
- wash at least 100 feet away from natural water sources

9. water pollution

- do everything you can to protect water sources from contamination
 - boil or chemically treat your drinking water any time you are not sure of water purity
- The increasing occurrence of backcountry dysentery caused by *Giardia* clearly demonstrates the impact water pollution has in the wilds. *Giardia* thrives in water that has been contaminated with animal or human waste. Consider most backcountry water to be potentially contaminated even though it appears clean and may be running rapidly. To ensure its safety, boil water or use a chemical water purification agent. Clean water is vital to human and animal health; do everything you can to lessen your impact on water sources.

10. fires



- keep fires small
- use only down dead wood
- leave axes at home
- make sure your ashes are cool
- enjoy the experience of a fireless evening

Even though we all enjoy fires, most wildlands are feeling the effects of too many fires. Even when a fire is possible, consider your site. Choose your site's and sounds usually hidden by the fire's draw and use it lightly, leaving it in as natural a state as possible.

Safe: around a fire or in a cleared area

Backcountry cleanup near on others as

14. become a part of the environment

- join environmental groups
 - leave your impact on the land
 - be a thoughtful backcountry traveler
- Each one of us can have an impact on public recreation opportunities by our actions. REI sponsors cleanups of trails and areas. If you are a member of a conservation group, you may be able to help. Write to receive the Environmental Support Guidelines. REI Environmental Committee, P.O. Box C-88126, Seattle, WA 98188.

Please help protect our wildlands by sharing these minimum impact techniques with your friends and associates. REI encourages the use of the ideas and information included in this publication; we merely ask that you mention REI as the information source.

Copyright © REI, P.O. Box C-88126, Seattle, WA 98188
Text by Tim Kneeland, Director, Institute for Survival Education, 317 NE 58th Street, Seattle, Washington 98105. Illustrations by Bob Cram.



Quality Outdoor Gear and Clothing Since 1938

MINIMUM IMPACT CAMPING... Techniques for the new wilderness ethic from REI Recreation Equipment Inc.
P.O. Box C-88126, Seattle, WA 98188
(8 1/2"X 14")

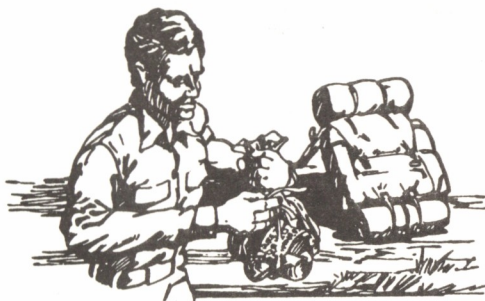
A very informative brochure distributed by REI promoting low-impact use. Some districts have waterproofed copies and used them at trailheads. REI encourages use of the information and ideas on the brochure as long as they are given credit.

Minimize Your Impact

Wash self &
cook gear well
away from lakes
& streams.



Dispose of
human waste in
a hole far away
from lakes & streams.
Cover with soil.



Pack out all
unburnables
including
aluminum foil.

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Northern
Region



MINIMIZE YOUR IMPACT

Northern Region, R1-FS-2330-8 (3/84)

Federal Building, 200 E. Broadway St., P.O. Box 7669, Missoula, MT 59807
(11"X 17")

A good waterproof trailhead poster with low-impact messages.
Brown on brown.

POSTERS

STEP BY STEP

For Better Trails



Flip a Stick



Drain the Rain

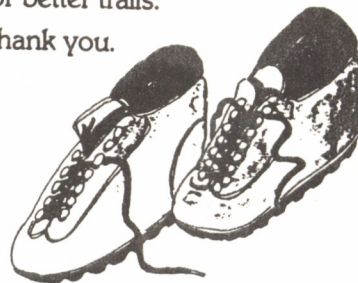


Kick a Rock

PLEASE!

Use your steps
for better trails.

Thank you.



 Forest Service • USDA
Pacific Northwest Region

STEP BY STEP - For Better Trails

Deschutes NF - Pacific Northwest Region

319 SW Pine Street, P.O. Box 3623, Portland, Oregon 97208

A catchy 8-1/2"X 11" poster with simple message about how hikers can help maintain trails. Poster can be waterproofed.

POSTERS

Welcome to Wilderness



This Wilderness provides you with an opportunity to experience a natural environment, to have solitude, and to use your outdoor skills.

The Forest Service is maintaining the wildness of this area for you by providing only a few primitive trails, bridges and signs. Your visit may include a degree of challenge and risk.

Please help protect this special place by practicing no-trace camping and traveling skills.

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service



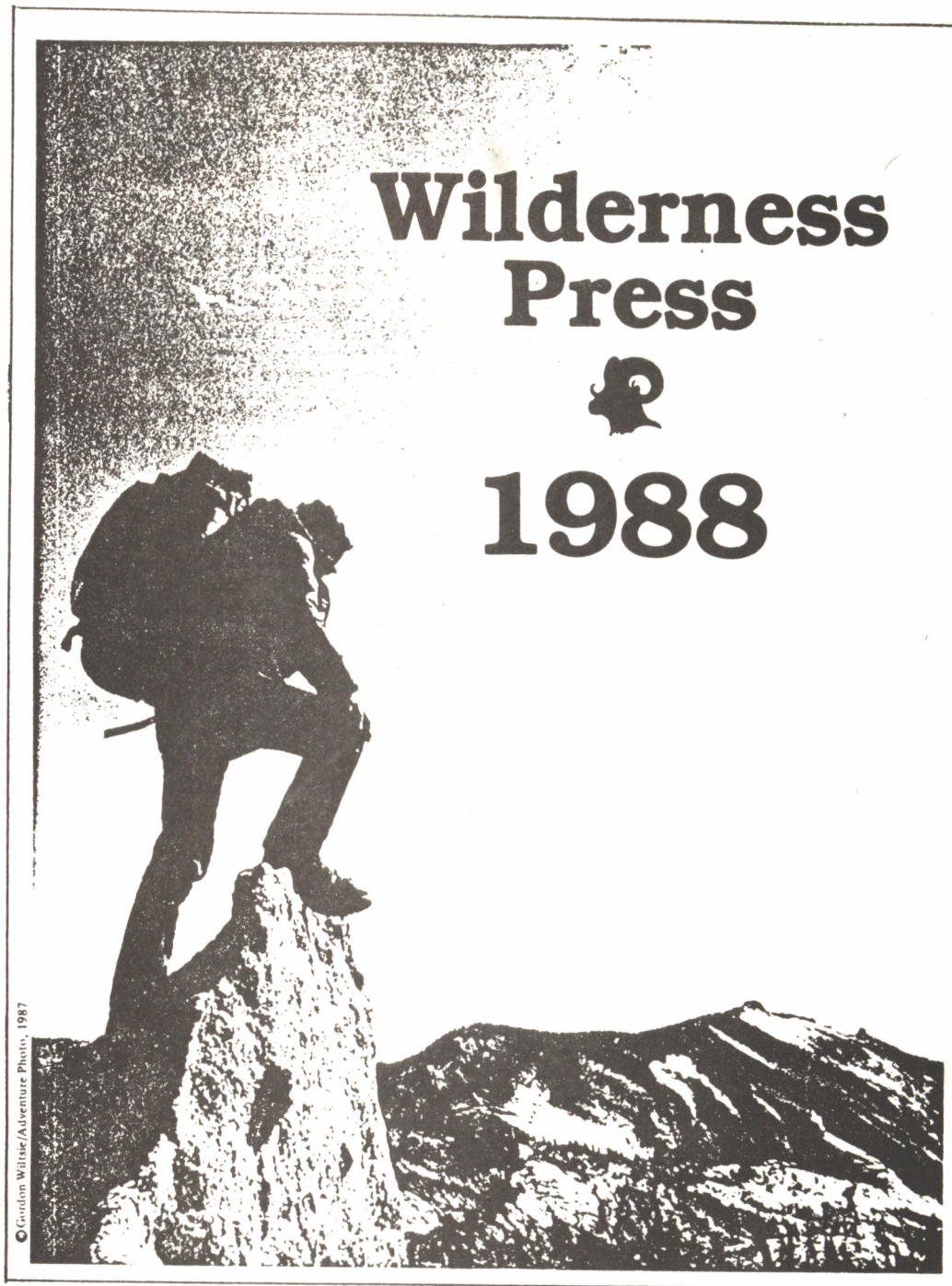
Welcome to WILDERNESS
(11"X 17")

A Nice trailhead poster available in waterproof cardboard
or very heavy (thick) and durable plastic.

Pacific Northwest Region

319 SW Pine Street, P.O. Box 3623, Portland, OR 97208

REFERENCES



CATALOGUE - WILDERNESS PRESS - 1988

2440 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, CA 94704

Free catalogue of books, maps, hiking and Nature guides
available for purchase. Emphasizes California
and adjoining states but is a good source of books.

John Muir Wilderness



Sierra National Forest

The John Muir Wilderness encompasses approximately 584,000 acres in the Sierra and Inyo National Forests. It extends along the crest of the Sierra Nevada from Mammoth Lakes southeastward for 30 miles, then forks around the boundary of Kings Canyon National Park to Crown Valley and Mt. Whitney.

Elevations range from 4,000 feet to 14,496 feet at Mt. Whitney with many peaks above 12,000 feet. The Wilderness is characterized by deep canyons as well as beautiful meadows among the many lakes and streams. The South and Middle Forks of the San Joaquin River, the North Fork of the Kings River and many creeks which drain into Owens Valley originate in the John Muir.

Stands of Jeffrey and lodgepole pine, incense cedar, and red and white fir can be found on the lower western slopes of the John Muir. Higher up are lodgepole, whitebark, and western pine, red fir, and mountain hemlock. The highest elevations are barren granite.

Summer temperatures range from 25 to 85 degrees and there is usually a frost-free period from mid-July through August. In summer, afternoon and evening thundershowers are common. Deep snow blankets most of the Wilderness from late October through mid-June.

The John Muir Trail/Pacific Crest Trail traverses about 30 airline miles of the Wilderness from the north end to Kings Canyon National Park.

Commercial pack stations serve the Wilderness from all road ends.

Regulations/Permit Requirements

A Visitor Permit is required at all

times and a quota system is in effect from July 1 through Labor Day. Only everyone's effort will preserve the beauty and solitude of the Wilderness experience. Please do your part and abide by the following:

- Maximum group size 25.
- Camp at least 100 feet from meadows, streambanks, and lakeshores.
- Do not shortcut switchbanks.
- Keep soaps and detergents (including biodegradable ones) out of lakes and streams.
- Treat stream or lake water before using. Boil at least 5 minutes to remove harmful organisms.
- Bury all human waste and toilet paper 6 to 8 inches deep, at least 100 feet from water where runoff won't carry contamination into lakes or streams.
- Use gas stoves in the high country. Do not use wood from live or dead standing trees.
- Pack out all your trash.

Please familiarize yourself with these and other Wilderness regulations. For further information on regulations, permits, and conditions, contact:

West Side Entry

Pineridge Ranger District
Sierra National Forest
P.O. Box 300
Shaver Lake, CA 93664

(209) 841-3311

East Side Entry

Inyo National Forest
873 N. Main Street
Bishop, CA 93514

(619) 873-5841



United States
Department of
Agriculture



Forest
Service

Pacific
Southwest
Region

JOHN MUIR WILDERNESS - Example of a Recreation Opportunity Guide addressing low-impact information.

You Can Minimize Your Impact!

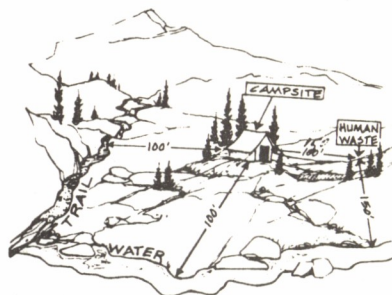


Sierra National Forest

Help the Forest Service institute a land ethic which recognizes our responsibility to the natural resources. You can help us establish a minimum impact camping attitude.

The camping practices of yesteryear need to be replaced by a land camping ethic that minimizes our impact. As a temporary visitor to the forest, you should leave few imprints on the land. The forces of nature need to be allowed to dominate the landscape.

Please minimize your impact by practicing the following backcountry manners.



Try to select a campsite at least 100 feet from lakes and streams. This helps prevent water contamination and loss of bank vegetation. Please avoid camping in meadows or on lakeshores and streambanks. We especially need your help in keeping these areas available for wildlife to feed and drink.

As a general rule, the best campsites are away from water on higher ground. These sites are drier, warmer, and less popular with mosquitos.

Please avoid detracting from the natural setting by brushing, leveling, or trenching your campsite. Avoid destruction, defacement, or carving on trees or shrubs. Rearranging rocks and twigs is okay to accommodate your sleeping bag or tent but remove all traces of your presence before leaving your campsite.



SOLITUDE AND CAMPSITE SELECTION

The true backcountry enthusiast respects solitude. Solitude means freedom from the intrusion of urban type sights, sounds, and odors. Choose a campsite that retains this solitude for yourself and others.

CAMPFIRES/LITTER

Your use of gas stoves is encourage. They are more convenient than wood stoves. If you build a fire, please conserve firewood by building small fires. We've found that



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Region

YOU CAN MINIMIZE YOUR IMPACT - Good example of a Recreation Opportunity Guide dealing with low-impact techniques.

Wilderness Regulations

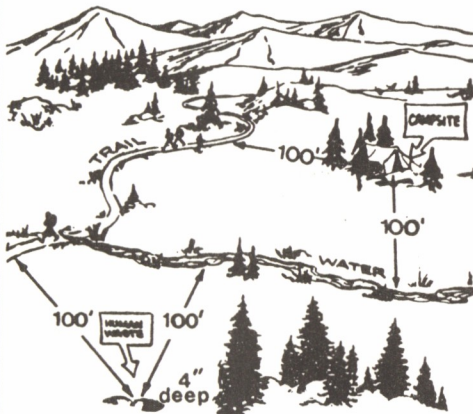
Pacific Southwest Region

Most of the regulations listed below are just plain common sense and courtesy. Your cooperation will be appreciated.



A. REGULATIONS

1. Select campsites at least 100 feet from lakes, streams, and trails where terrain permits. Try to select a campsite that is screened to preserve the natural appearance of the landscape.
2. Body waste and wash/rinse water should be discharged at least 100 feet from lakes and streams. Bury body waste in at least 4 inches of soil. Pack out sanitary napkins and disposable diapers.
3. Pack out all unburnable refuse; burn or packout burnable refuse. Aluminum and glass do not burn. Animals and frost heave will uncover buried items. Try your skills at "no trace" camping. Help leave the wilderness cleaner than you found it.
4. Maintain water quality. No soap or detergent, even bio-degradable, should



be used in streams or lakes. All water should be boiled 5 minutes before drinking.

5. Shortcutting switchbacks is not permitted. It causes erosion and costs you tax dollars to repair.
6. Cutting or defacing of standing trees, dead or alive, is not permitted.
7. Dogs or other pets are not allowed in National Park backcountry. They are allowed within a National Forest wilderness if kept under confinement.
8. Discharging firearms is permitted only for emergencies and taking of wildlife as permitted by State game laws. Firearms are NOT permitted in the National Parks.
9. Motorized vehicles and equipment are prohibited.
10. Construction of improvements such as rock walls, large fireplaces, boughbeds, tables, etc., is not permitted. Improvements destroy natural beauty and leave man's imprint.
11. Tying of pack and saddle stock within 100 feet of lakes, streams, trails and campsites is not permitted except while loading and unloading. Tying away from these areas will preserve the quality of the wilderness and water.
12. Camping is limited to 14 days per travel zone. This allows greater use of popular areas.

B. SPECIFIC REGULATED AREAS



The management philosophy in this part of the Sierra is to regulate use, where necessary, through trailhead quotas, to preserve as much interior freedom as possible, and to minimize interior restrictions. In the following areas it was necessary to restrict some activities to prevent damaging the wilderness:

MONO LAKE RANGER DISTRICT, INYO NATIONAL FOREST
Campfires prohibited in the 20-Lakes



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service



INYO National Forest
SIERRA National Forest

WILDERNESS REGULATIONS - Pacific Southwest Region, 630 Sansome Street, San Francisco, CA 94111. Good example of a Recreation Opportunity Guide dealing with regulations.

BACKPACKING



Backpacking is Freedom

Backpacking offers freedom to the forest traveler. You have no worries, other than your own. You become part of a scenic landscape and survive in a primitive environment with few modern conveniences. Self-sufficient, yes, but with this freedom goes an individual responsibility to care for the environment and respect the rights of those you meet along the way and those who follow you.

Backpacking is not limited to supermen and superwomen. However, it does require physical stamina and a genuine liking for the isolation in the remote country. Overnight backpacking trips should be undertaken only by those who have hiked easier mountain or forest trails and are familiar with backpacking techniques.

Treading Lightly

For thousands of years our wildlands have existed in a complex ecological interrelationship. This interrelationship can be easily upset or even destroyed. Once damaged, some plants and soils may not recover in our lifetime. Today, nature is struggling in many backcountry

areas to cope with results of unacceptable backpacking, overnight camping techniques, and heavy use.

Unappreciative or uninformed backpackers who have no enthusiasm for preserving the land are now in the minority. Even so, many backcountry areas are "camped out." Firewood is scarce or nonexistent. Unnatural fire-blackened rocks and fire scars dot the landscape, and small green trees and ground cover are gone. In many areas, even the streams are no longer safe for drinking. Several groups of people camping around the same lake lower the quality of the "backcountry experience" through noise and visual pollution.

Laws and regulations are being enforced to correct and eliminate these situations, but cooperation, proper attitudes, and voluntary actions of visitors are better ways to preserve the land.

The concept of taking only pictures and leaving only footprints evolves from backpacker awareness.



Special Regulations

Permits

Permits are required in many areas of the backcountry. Permits are available at no cost and can be obtained from the local offices of the land managing agency. The permit must be obtained in advance and must be in your possession during your visit.

Group Size

In many backcountry areas the maximum number of people in a group is restricted. Large groups are destructive. Check to determine allowable group size.

Trail Courtesy

When hiking it's quite possible you may encounter trail riders along with pack stock. Since stock are easily

spooked from unseen sources, it is best to make your presence known. When stock approaches, step off on the lower side of the trail while the stock passes. Be courteous in sharing the trail with others.

Fishing and Hunting

Write in advance of your backpacking trip for fishing and hunting rules and permits.

Fishing and hunting are authorized under State regulations. Check with the local Ranger before entering areas to fish or hunt because regulations vary.

In every jurisdiction, the "pinkie" gun used to destroy chipmunks, song birds, and other wildlife is held in contempt, and it is usually illegal.

Pets

Regulations differ on taking pets into the backcountry so check with the local Ranger regarding restrictions. Remember dogs and cats are predators by nature and will instinctively chase forest birds and animals; horses and dogs don't mix, so physical restraint of the dog is necessary; and bears and dogs don't mix.

You know your pet but other persons do not. Many areas have leash restrictions, especially on or within specified distances (usually 500 feet) of well-traveled trails or in heavily used areas. Show respect for other persons and wildlife by keeping your pet under physical restraint or better yet, you might consider leaving your pet at home.

BACKPACKING - Rocky Mountain Region R2-108-11-87
11177 W. Eighth Ave., P.O. Box 25127, Lakewood, CO 80225
(11"X 13 3/4")

Attractive brochure in Tabloid format. Low impact techniques as well as regulations and safety. Some of it is specific to R-2, but is a very good example of its type and could be easily modified. Previously in booklet with same title (Program Aid 1239).



WilderNews

April 1988

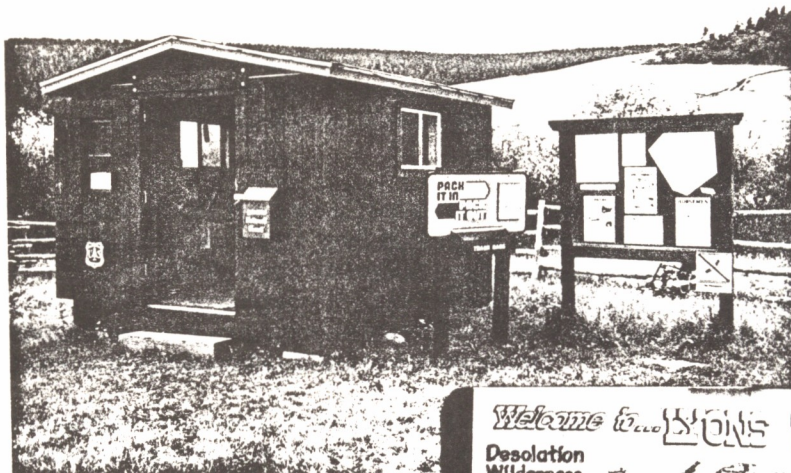
issue five

WILDERNEWS

Moose Creek Ranger District, Nez Perce National Forest
P.O.Box 464 Grangeville, Idaho 83530,
(208)-893-2712

Great Newsletter and a good opportunity for sharing and learning.
Your support through providing articles is needed.

TRAILHEADS



TRAILHEAD SIGNS AND INFORMATION STATION

Examples of attractive trailhead signs on the Eldorado National Forest and the Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit and an information station at a wilderness trailhead on the Bighorn National Forest

Trailheads prepare a prime contact point for wilderness education and information, and demonstrate the agency's feelings about the area to the public, as often that is the only contact that visitors have with the agency.